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King: Peace treaty follows resolution of common agenda issues

Jordan hopes for progress on other tracks leading to comprehensive Mideast peace

PARIS (Agencies) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday said that a Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty could be signed soon following the completion of negotiations on all important issues contained in the common agenda.

Speaking to reporters in Paris after meeting at the Elysee Palace with French President Francois Mitterrand, King Hussein said that when the Jordanian and Israeli teams end all the negotiations there will be a peace treaty crowning the process.

"We hope that there will also be progress along the other tracks so that the aspired comprehensive peace can be attained," the King said.

"As for Jordan, we are involved in a negotiating process that promises well in view of the good atmosphere — but there is a lot of issues that are still to be addressed before we arrive at the signing of a peace treaty," the King said.

"The methods followed on the other tracks entail first signing a document, then the negotiations took place, but we choose to start with the negotiations first to reach final solutions before attaining a peace treaty," King Hussein added.

On whether his talks with the French president covered the lifting of the UN embargo on Iraq, the King said: "We discussed a wide range of topics. I consider President Mitterrand an old friend whom I deeply respect as a brother who proved his stand in the difficult circumstances which Jordan had faced in the past."

"I sincerely hope that the sufferings of the Iraqi people will end soon and hope to see Iraq serving as part of the world community and part of the peace in the Middle East region."

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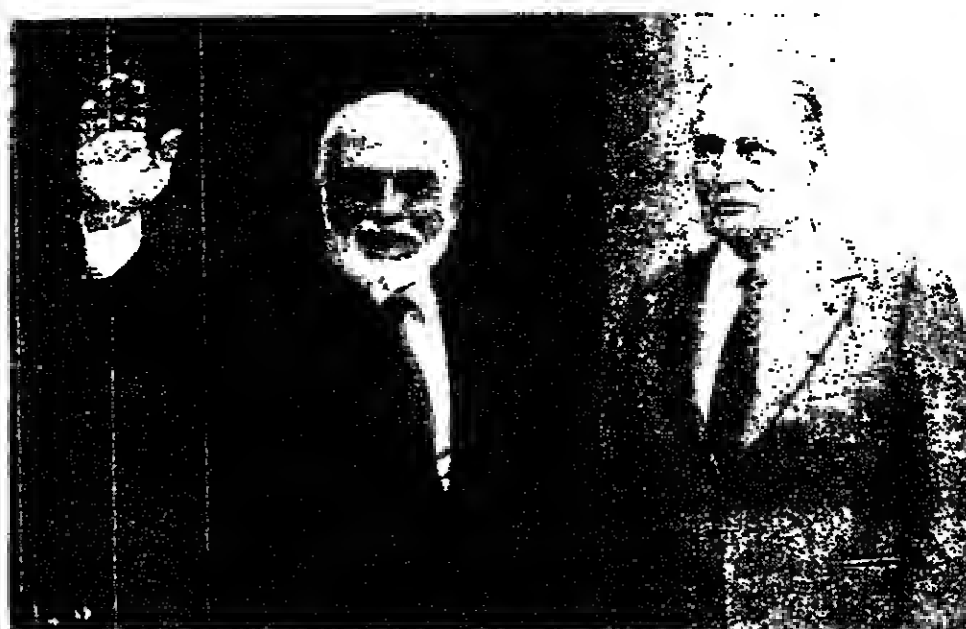
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His Majesty King Hussein waves as he is flanked by French President Francois Mitterrand upon his arrival at the Elysee Palace Wednesday (AFP photo)

IRA declares 'complete' ceasefire

BELFAST (Agencies) — The outlawed Irish Republican Army (IRA) Wednesday announced a "complete cessation" of violence in Northern Ireland beginning midnight, paving the way for a possible end to 25 years of sectarian bloodshed.

The historic ceasefire, announced in a statement released here, was unambiguous, unconditional and open-ended, observers said.

British Prime Minister John Major said in a statement he was "greatly encouraged" by the IRA declaration. "But we need to be clear that this is indeed intended to be a permanent renunciation of violence, that is to say, for good," Mr. Major said.

Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds called the announcement "unequivocal," saying "we are on the brink of a new beginning... Ireland is entering a new era."

The IRA statement said "there will be a complete cessation of military operations... all our units have been instructed accordingly. 'We are... entering into a new situation in a spirit of determination and confidence that the injustices which created this conflict will be removed,' said the IRA statement."

The Northern Ireland conflict has claimed 3,167 lives and left some 36,500 injured in a quarter century of sectarian killings.

The ceasefire announcement, which had been expected for 48 hours, would appear to satisfy the demands of last December's Anglo-Irish declaration which offered the IRA's political wing Sinn Fein a place in peace talks once the outlawed IRA permanently renounced violence.

That pact, known as the Downing Street Declaration, said Sinn Fein would be embraced in the peacemaking fold once the ceasefire endured at least three months.

The declaration also stipulated that the people of Northern Ireland, which is now predominantly Protestant, would ultimately determine whether the province remains part of the United Kingdom, or reverts to the Irish Republic.

There was a swift response from the loyalist paramilitary groups, who gave no hint that they would halt their own violence.

The Combined Loyalist Military Command — the umbrella group which includes the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters and the Ulster Volunteer Force — said, "the CLM wish to make it clear that we will not be dancing to the nationalist tune."

It urged Democratic Unionist Party leader the Rev Ian Paisley and Ulster Unionist leader James Molyneux to meet with British Prime Minister John Major and return to Northern Ireland to "let our people know the truth."

However, observers were optimistic over the CLM reaction. The Protestant militants have previously dismissed such ceasefire announcements as traps.

"I hope the authors of the statement mean what they say — that it is a permanent, total, complete cessation of terrorism," said Mr. Molyneux, who was scheduled to meet with Mr. Major mid-afternoon.

The IRA would have to hand over their weapons, he said, adding, "How are they going to justify retaining the weapons of war if they have stopped the war. That is the question the IRA have got to answer."

Ulster Unionist MP William Ross of Londonderry said his reaction was "deep, deep suspicion," adding that anyone who took the IRA's ceasefire statement at face value would be "very foolish indeed."

The IRA announcement "talks about complete cessation of military operations, it doesn't say that cessation is permanent," said Mr. Ross.

Gerry Adams, president of the IRA's Sinn Fein political wing, said the ceasefire "created an unprecedented opportunity which brings Anglo-Irish relations to a decisive point."

"It is an historic day," he said. "John Major and the leaders of (Protestant) Unionism should seize the moment."

He said Sinn Fein would be looking for an immediate response from the British government that would include the lifting of the broadcasting ban on Sinn Fein members introduced in October 1988.

Even before the declaration, there had been positive signs that it would be taken seriously, including an announcement by the U.S. government that it was prepared to pump millions of dollars of aid into the province to rebuild its crippled infrastructure and economy.

President Clinton spoke by telephone Wednesday with Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds and British Prime Minister John Major soon after the Irish Republican Army declared a ceasefire, the White House said.

Mr. Clinton made the calls from Martha's Vineyard where he is vacationing, apparently from a sports utility vehicle in his motorcade.

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Majali: Jordan seeks compatible peace

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali has said that democracy, comprehensive security and regional cooperation based on compatibility of living standards for all peoples of the area are the pillars of peace which Jordan is seeking.

"Lasting peace is a product of the grassroots and they should fully identify with its gains and pains," Dr. Majali said in a speech he delivered Tuesday at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council.

The prime minister said that "each party should present a convincing ledger to its people in order to show them that peace will leave them better off."

Dr. Majali, in a lecture tour in the United States, told the Los Angeles council that Jordan is seeking a peace which future generations would accept and protect.

"Our ceaseless quest for peace does not derive its strength from purely philosophical tendencies," he said, adding that "our story in Jordan has been a continuous strife to walk the critical line that separates between survival and decent living, between cold war and regional antagonism, and between war and peace."

Dr. Majali held Israel responsible for the slow progress in the Jordanian-Israeli track of the negotiations after signing the agenda for the talks in Washington on Sept. 14 last year, saying Israel "insisted on violating the common agenda."

He said Israel wanted to negotiate boundaries as part of a peace treaty though the agenda stipulated the boundary issue was among the items which once resolved would culminate in a peace treaty.

To get the talks moving, he said, Jordan proposed that the two countries sign agreements over issues that they succeeded in resolving after Israel rejected an earlier proposal that would consider the resolving of the boundary issue "a constructive step towards the cultivation of a peace treaty."

The prime minister said the "honesty and openness" of His Majesty King Hussein rallied public opinion behind the progress registered in the Jordanian-Israeli track of the negotiations.

"Before progress was registered on the Jordanian track this summer, His Majesty King Hussein alerted the Jordanian people of what was coming. His honesty and openness rallied the public behind him in this matter," Dr. Majali said.

The prime minister noted that King Hussein's visit to Washington in July signalled the entrance of the Jordanian-Israeli track into a new era, free of fear and myth. (For full text of the speech, see page 7).

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Turkish businessmen sign Iraq deal

NICOSIA (AFP) — Turkish businessmen have signed a protocol to cooperate with Iraq in trade, industry, transport and communication, the official Iraqi News Agency INA reported Wednesday.

The businessmen representing Turkey's chambers of commerce and industry inked the deal with Iraq industry ministry under secretary Abdul Kader Abdul Rahman, said INA, monitored in Nicosia. The protocol also provides for the creation of a joint chamber of commerce.

The 60-strong delegation left Iraq on Tuesday after a four-day visit, pledging to work for an end to the U.N. embargo on Baghdad that has been in force since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in August 1990, INA reported.

Germany opens mission in autonomy area

JERICHO, West Bank (AP) — Germany on Wednesday opened a representative office in Jericho, the first country to set up a mission in the Palestinian autonomy areas. The office will mainly oversee the spending of German aid to the Palestinians, some \$200 million through 1998, said Theodor Wallau, director-general of the German foreign ministry.

"This is neither an embassy nor a consulate," said Mr. Wallau, referring to the clause in the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy accord under which Israel remains in control of Palestinian foreign policy. Saeh Erakat, a minister in the Palestinian self-rule government, said he hoped the opening of the mission would eventually lead to higher-level representation. "As Palestinians, we have taken very few steps on a very long road," Mr. Erakat told about 200 guests attending the opening ceremony. "The inauguration of the German mission is one of such steps. I hope the day will come when we will be inaugurating a German embassy in the Palestinian capital."

The Jordanian officials would neither confirm nor deny that "Carlos" was ever in Amman, saying only that those witnesses who "saw" him might have in fact seen "look-alikes."

But eyewitnesses appear sure that they positively identified the picture that was published following Carlos' arrest in Sudan as that of the man they had known and talked to around town.

"It is him, I have no doubt in my mind," says a 44-year-old businessman,

Rabin threatens halt to authority transfer

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel will halt any further transfers of power in the West Bank if the Palestinian authority does not move against violence by Islamic extremists, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Wednesday.

"Security considerations will be the dominant factor in deciding the timing," Mr. Rabin said. The two sides have yet to agree on a timetable for the agreement signed this week to transfer health, education, social services and taxation in the West Bank to the self-rule government.

Officials said they did not expect the Palestinians to stamp out all violence, but at least make the maximum effort to jail the assailants.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said that Israel has given Palestinian authorities the names of suspects Israel believes were behind the most recent slayings. "I haven't heard of anyone being brought to court or justice," the minister from the dovish Meretz bloc told the Associated Press.

The man went by the name of Mourad Aziz, the same name that international reports claimed was his while in Amman, according to Mr. K. and other sources.

"Mr. Aziz" who at times said he was an "Arab diplomat" and at other times "university professor" or simply a "wandering intellectual" did "not look like a murderer or terrorist to me," Mr. K. says. "He was so sophisticated and charming that it was hard to imagine him was a ruthless man."

Hard information about what "Carlos" did in Amman, and for how long he stayed here, was difficult to obtain, although those who know "Aziz" rather well believed he lived in an apartment in the hilly Rabbia area, between Shmeisani and Jabal Amman.

An "acquaintance," who spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity,

after identifying the picture of "Carlos" as that of a middle-aged man who often sat at a corner in one of Jabal Amman's restaurants.

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Was Carlos ever in Amman?

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Did the famous Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, better known in the West as "Carlos the Jackal," ever live in Amman during his years of sojourn in the Middle East?

Government and security officials would not be drawn into answering this question, but according to eyewitnesses, "Carlos" was regularly seen in Amman during a certain period between 1991 and 1992, although one of them knew who he actually was at the time.

The Jordanian officials would neither confirm nor deny that "Carlos" was ever in Amman, saying only that those witnesses who "saw" him might have in fact seen "look-alikes."

But eyewitnesses appear sure that they positively identified the picture that was published following Carlos' arrest in Sudan as that of the man they had known and talked to around town.

"I do not understand, my character is simple. I am above all a family man," Carlos was quoted as saying. "My wife and daughter live in the most normal fashion in a house just next door to my mother."

Carlos, according to this "interview" was apparently unhappy with reports that he was an "alcoholic and a womaniser."

"Why are they trying to pass me off as an alcoholic? All this is false. I have never been a drinker," the report quoted him as saying.

The "acquaintances" in Amman remember "Murad Aziz" as someone "who appreciated good food, good wine and the good life," as one of them put it.

But none of them remembered him as a heavy drinker or someone who behaved strangely towards people.

"He was a very classy man," one eyewitness said. "He used to greet women by kissing their hands and always behaved like he was a man of the world."

He often approached people during dinner at the Jabal Amman restaurant and asked them whether they liked what they ordered and whether they recommended that he order the same thing.

On the other hand, at least two people remember him frequenting a four-star hotel's fitness centre or its swimming pool.

"I remember him as a flamboyant 40-plus man who was always accompanied by a petite brunette," a 35-year-old company employee says. "He even sometimes carried that woman on his shoulders and walked around the swimming pool," says the woman, who also asked not to be identified by name.

"I remember that we used to have an Iraqi customer who came to the fitness centre at that time and said he was an Arab professor teaching at Jordan University, but I am not sure that this is the

same man," a senior employee at the hotel told the Jordan Times.

"It is possible that the man was none other than Carlos the Jackal. But if he was... my God, he certainly fooled me."



Carlos the Jackal

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same man," a senior employee at the hotel told the Jordan Times.

Lebanon joins list of nations boycotting Cairo conference

BEIRUT, Lebanon (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rafik Hariri has said Lebanon would not participate in next week's U.N. Population Conference in Egypt, the third Arab country to snub the meeting.

"The Council of Ministers has decided not to participate in this conference," Mr. Hariri told reporters after a cabinet meeting Tuesday night.

He did not give a reason for the decision. But the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development, which opens Monday in Cairo, has not created any controversy here as it did in other countries.

The meeting is intended to develop policies that would slow the world population — growing at an all-time high of 90 million people a year — and encourage development, especially in Third World countries.

But a 113-page draft "programme of action" has drawn wide criticism from the Vatican and Muslim hardliners because it encouraged birth control. Muslims also have charged that the draft advocates abortion, homosexuality and premarital sex which are forbidden under Islamic Sharia, or law.

Sudan and Saudi Arabia have withdrawn their delegations.

Lebanon's 4 million population is 45 per cent Christian and the rest Muslim. It is one of the most liberal countries in the Middle East.

Mr. Hariri is a billionaire who also holds Saudi citizenship. His government is helping for Saudi financial help in its reconstruction drive after the 1975-90 civil war.

The decision to stay away from the conference was seen as a possible attempt to avoid getting embroiled in the controversy and angering the Saudis.

Meanwhile, Kuwait Wednesday said it will stick to its decision to attend the World Population Conference in Cairo despite a Saudi boycott.

A ministry of planning spokesman told the newspaper Kuwait Times that the emirate would however "only support solutions to population problems that are compatible with Islamic injunctions and ethics."

Abdul Aziz Ben Baz, the mufti of Saudi Arabia, has appealed to all Islamic countries to follow his country's example and boycott the conference on the grounds that its draft resolutions violated Islamic teachings.

Sudan like Lebanon, joined the boycott.

On the other hand, Zimbabwe's Catholics backed their bishops on Wednesday in opposing the U.N. Population Conference in Cairo, saying it sought to limit Africa's population and "murder the unborn child."

"Instead of economic justice, we are being given donations with stringent conditions to cut down our numbers and murder the unborn child," Zimbabwe's Catholic Commission of the Laity said.

Two weeks ago the Catholic bishops in the largely Christian country of 10 million blasted the conference opening in Egypt's capital on Monday, saying it condoned casual sexual affairs and free unions.

The commission, grouping most of Zimbabwe's Catholics, noted in a statement that Zimbabwe's government had sent a delegation to the conference and said: "Is our government now penalising families for having more children than what developed countries say is the limit? We need not imitate developed countries and their moral corruption."



ROYAL VISIT: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday visited a unit of the Fourth Royal Mechanised Division and met its commanders and senior officers. The Regent discussed with the commanders a number of matters related to the division's training and planning. Also discussed was the idea of offering incentives to excellent officers and troops. Later, the Regent, accompanied by the Crown Prince, visited the Al-Nafesa Hospital.

Lebanon rejects permanent settlement of Palestinian refugees

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese government unanimously rejects permanent settlement of Palestinian refugees on its territory and will not grant them civic rights, Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri said.

Mr. Hariri's statement followed a political row over a government minister's proposal to build new housing for 3,000 Palestinian families who have been squatters since Christian militias razed their camps during Lebanon's 1975-90 civil war.

Some Christian cabinet minister and Muslim religious leaders bitterly denounced the proposal as a surreptitious attempt to begin permanent settlement of the Palestinians which is banned under the Lebanese constitution.

"The ministers expressed their opinion on the subject. There was unanimity over the refusal of permanent settlement for Palestinians in Lebanon," Mr. Hariri told reporters after a Tuesday night cabinet meeting.

"We have refused to grant civic rights to Palestinians so that this is not interpreted as support for a bilateral (peace) agreement (with Israel)," he added.

About 400,000 Palestinian refugees live in about a dozen squalid camps in Lebanon. Most of them, or their parents, fled in 1948 at the creation of Israel and the first Arab-Israeli war.

Lebanon has consistently refused to grant them citizenship, saying they would upset the fragile Muslim-Christian sectarian balance in a country of 3.2 million. Most of the refugees are Muslims.

Israel agreed in last September's interim autonomy deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation to discuss the return of refugees who fled as a result of the 1967 war, but not the 1948 refugees.

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, Lebanon's minister for rehabilitation of displaced people, caused a political storm when he proposed to resettle the Palestinian families in mountains near the southern city of Sidon on the edge of the Druze stronghold in the Shouf Mountains.

Mr. Jumblatt exchanged angry words with Christian ministers who criticised the proposal, bluntly accusing them of sectarianism that could reignite the flames of civil war.

However, Mr. Hariri said the row showed there was a "national consensus" in Lebanon against permanent settlement of the Palestinians.

He said Jumblatt's proposal was purely humanitarian and civil war squatters had to be relocated to allow reconstruction and redevelopment.

However, Mr. Hariri said the cabinet decided to form a four-man committee to study Jumblatt's proposal. Jumblatt was not appointed to the committee and some newspapers hailed the decision as a victory for his opponents.

A guide to population conference in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — A U.N. conference on population and development, opening in Cairo on Monday, has aroused passions among religious conservatives.

Here is a guide to the conference, its objectives, the mechanics of it and the current state of the central document which the 20,000 delegates will discuss.

Question: What is the purpose of the Cairo conference?

Answer: The United Nations has been holding a conference on population every 10 years. The previous two were in Mexico City in 1984 and Bucharest in 1994. The aim this time is to reach international consensus on a 20-year "programme of action" which would have the effect of holding the population of the world to 7.27 billion people in the year 2015 and 7.8 billion in 2050, from 5.65 billion in June this year. The programme goes way beyond birth control alone to include the status of women, education, sexually transmitted diseases, health care, population distribution and migration.

Q: Will the programme of action be a treaty?

A: No, the programme will not be binding. Each state is free to express reservations on any part of the text, but most states want the text to be as widely accepted as possible.

Q: Why did the United Nations choose Cairo?

A: The Egyptian government lobbied to act as host for the conference. The United Nations accepted its application partly in recognition of the success of Egypt's own family planning programme and partly because Egypt is a good example of a country which still has a serious population problem.

Q: What will happen at the conference?

A: From Sept. 5 to 13 the delegates will put the final touches on the draft programme of action prepared at a meeting in New York in April. Most of the text has already been agreed but the lobbying on the remaining controversial sections is expected to be lively. In parallel with the conference of delegates from governments, hundreds of non-governmental organisations will meet nearby.

Q: Why has the draft programme of action aroused such passions among religious groups?

A: By its nature, the document must try to please all parties. It does not endorse any particular model for the family or set norms for sexual behaviour. It recognises that laws and customs differ from one country to another. Some religious conservatives, especially in the Muslim and Roman Catholic camps, find this broadmindedness difficult to swallow and would like the document to reflect their own narrow definitions. In Egypt some Islamists appear to have picked on the conference as a stick with which to attack their government.

Q: What does the draft programme say about birth control?

A: The document strongly endorses making contraceptive and contraceptive advice available to those who want them. In no way does it encourage governments to stop couples having children.

Q: What does it say about abortion?

A: Abortion is one of the most controversial issues on the agenda and many of the references remain between brackets — an indication that there is no consensus on them. The emphasis of two proposed texts is that governments should deal "openly and forthrightly" with unsafe abortions and should provide health care for complications from unsafe abortions. One of them says that the main objective should be to reduce the rate of abortion, the other that abortion should not be promoted as a means

Major medical conference opens

By Rima Cortbawi and Khattab Salzman
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The medico-surgical gastrointestinal conference that started here Wednesday "is an important event for specialised medical advancement in the country," according to Hashem Abu Hassan, president of the Jordanian Society of Gastroenterology.

The 3-day activity organised jointly by the Jordanian Association of Surgeons, the Jordanian Society of Gastroenterology and the Jordanian German Medical Society "marks another promising step in paving the way towards (medical) progress," said Dr. Abu Hassan, who is the co-chairman of the organising committee.

It is a well known fact that ideal means for enhancing medical development involve the convening of conferences, according to Dr. Abu Hassan.

"Conferences serve the prime objective of encouraging exchange of ideas, information and expertise amongst specialists from different countries."

In addition to 37 guest speakers and lecturers from Arab and foreign countries such as Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Germany, the U.S.A. and the U.K., 21 Jordanian doctors will contribute to the conference, according to Dr. Abu Hassan.

"The number of attendees is expected to amount to 300 people, including doctors and physicians from the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services, all Jordanian universities as well as the private sector. Medical university students will also gain tremendous knowledge from the 64 medical papers that will be dealt with," said Dr. Abu Hassan.

The main topics to be handled by the speakers will include: laparoscopic surgery for Hernia, gall bladder and appendix, peptic ulcer diseases, colonic tumours, gastroesophageal reflux, upper GI bleeding, viral Hepatitis, tumours of the liver, the use of laser in different diagnostic and therapeutic aspects of these fields and various surgical considerations and operations," Dr. Abu Hassan said.

In addition, exhibition of different drugs and modern medical equipment will be carried out by foreign and local companies throughout

the conference. Two panel discussions will revolve around the recent developments in Hepatitis C infections and an update on treatment of bleeding secondary to portal hypertension.

Events will also include two laparoscopic workshops conducted at King Hussein Medical Centre and Al-Bashir Hospital and a 3rd workshop on management of the diseases of common bile duct and the removal of stones from the common bile duct through endoscopy at Al-Bashir Hospital.

Side activities of the conference will take place at the Plaza Hotel, where experts from Germany are to meet with the Jordanian Orthopaedic Society on Thursday and the Gynaecology and Obstetrics Society on Friday for information discussions on the subjects.

"The fact that this conference is held in Jordan supports the argument that our country is one of the most advanced in the Arab region, specifically in medical human resources and the use of high-tech equipment in medicine," said Dr. Abu Hassan, who is also a GI consultant.

In his opening speech he added that importing modern equipment without having the capable individuals to man them is useless. That's why we have to upgrade the capabilities and skills of our medical staff members in order to enter the 21st century in a way that maintains our anticipated scientific status.

Wednesday's programme included opening speeches by various members of the organising committee and Health Minister Arif Bataineh deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. This was followed by the opening of the medical exhibition, a memorial lecture on exegesis in medical language and its common origin and the presentation of 16 specialised papers of "great medical value," as many attendees would agree.

Dr. Walid Fatayer, president of the Jordan Association of surgeons and president of the conference said in his opening speech that Jordan is proud of the scientific progress achieved in different medical sciences, and that the medical care staff members in Jordan feel that they have a commitment towards the people of Jordan to achieve excellence in medical care so that ideal standards will be reached in a few years time.

'Only Algerians can cross Moroccan border'

RABAT (R) — Four frontier posts on the Algerian-Moroccan border are now closed and only Algerians in Morocco are allowed through, the official Algerian news agency APS reported.

The agency monitored in Rabat said the Algerian decision to close the border on Saturday "is effective at the four frontier posts of Akid Lodi, Akid Abbas, Bakkoun and Beni Ouanif."

"Only Algerian nationals who are in Morocco can enter Algeria. Other passengers are banned from entering or leaving the national territory," the agency said citing the frontier police.

It said that in the three days after the decision to close the border some 7,500 Algerians and 900 Moroccan residents in Algeria returned to Algeria while 1,600 Moroccans and 200 Algerian residents returned to Morocco.

Diplomats and Moroccan officials said it was not known how many Algerians were currently in Morocco. There are several thousand residents and an unknown number of refugees who have fled the violence in Algeria.

More than a million visit the country annually as tourists.

Algeria closed the 1,200-km border "temporarily" when Morocco demanded entry visas for visitors of Algerian nationality or origin after the arrest of gunmen, including two of Algerian origin resident in France, suspected of carrying out a series of armed robberies.

Visa formalities between the two states were abolished in 1989 when they joined the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) which unites them to Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia.

Algeria has protested that the Moroccan visa requirement is a violation of the AMU pact but has also instituted entry visas for Moroccans.

Algeria closed its western border in 1976 and expelled more than 30,000 Moroccans. Road, rail and air traffic was suspended for 13 years after Rabat broke off diplomatic relations with Algiers because it backed Polisario guerrillas fighting for independence of western Sahara, the former Spanish colony claimed by Morocco.

Diplomats said a rupture of diplomatic relations was unlikely this time but they were unwilling to predict how long the border closure would last.

"The Algerian press is hurling contumely and abuse at Morocco, but the Moroccans are playing it cool. It will de-escalate, sooner or later," a western diplomat said.

The Moroccan Interior Ministry said on Tuesday visa restrictions for Algerians had been relaxed. It said women of Algerian nationality or origin married to Moroccans resident in the country would not require visas.

It added that residents of Algerian nationality or origin as well as visitors already in the country would continue to enjoy the same privileges as other foreigners.

AIDS test for non-Iraqis costs \$50

By Angham Tamimi
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Iraqi government is charging non-Iraqis \$50 or the equivalent in foreign currency to cover the cost of an AIDS (Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome) test before entering the country, the press attaché at the Iraqi embassy, Adel Ibrahim, told the Jordan Times.

He said Iraqis and resident Arabs would only pay 100 Iraqi dinars for the test.

Earlier reports said that Iraqi nationals and Arabs who hold residency papers for Iraq are charged only 10 Iraqi dinars each for the test.

Guests of the Iraqi government, non-governmental organisations and civil societies will not however be charged unless their stay in Iraq lasts for more than 15 days.

The Iraqi authorities introduced a free-of-charge AIDS test more than six years ago for everyone entering the country as a means to protecting its people from the deadly disease, he said.

In 1987, visitors could stay for one month without undergoing the AIDS test. In 1989, the period was reduced to 15 days, and since 1990 it has been cut down to only five days.

A health centre at the borders tests visitors, while Iraqi people are tested at Ministry of Health centres in Baghdad.

Those whose test results show HIV positive are barred from entry.

Mr. Ibrahim dismissed reports that the recent AIDS test is a new attempt by the Iraqi authorities to collect hard currency.

JORDAN TELEVISION

PROGRAMME TWO
17:00 ... In Sicile De Chansons
18:00 ... Les Plantes Et Des Hommes
18:45 ... Enquete Au Musce
19:00 ... News in Hebrew
20:00 ... News in Arabic
21:10 ... Heart of Courage
21:10 ... Murder She Wrote
22:00 ... News in English
22:30 ... Movie of the Week

PRAYER TIMES

6:45 ... Fajr
10:00 ... Sunrise/Duha
12:30 ... Duhr
16:12 ... Asr
19:07 ... Maghreb
20:28 ... Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church
Sheffield, Tel. 810749
Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
637485
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 622466
Church of the Annunciation Tel.
622541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel.
628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel.
771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.
775521
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel.
625256
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel.
824328
German-speaking Evangelical
Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691
The Evangelical Local Church in
Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department
of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather conditions
will prevail with winds north-
westerly moderate. In Agadeh,
winds will be northerly moderate
and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp.
Amman ... 19/32
Agadeh ... 26/39
Deserts ... 17/36
Jordan Valley ... 25/39

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 31, Agadeh 37 Humidity
readings: Amman 28 per cent,
Agadeh 36 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Yahya Abdul Salam	736072
Dr. Fakhri Taweh	855880
Dr. Ahmad Khamis	747684
Dr. Salmaan Al Doboubi	776751
Firas pharmacy	661912
Petrows pharmacy	778336
Natroukh pharmacy	623672
Al Salama pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shamsani pharmacy	637660
Najib pharmacy	847632
IRBID:	
Dr. Ali Al Omari	273032
Alquds pharmacy	(-)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Yahya Taweh	981530
Khalifeh pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	661111
Rescue	630341
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn	6428146
AKILAH MATERNITY, J. Amn.	
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malbas, J. Amman	636140
Pakertine, Shamsani	6641714
Shamsani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	815845
Al-Bashir Hospital	6672719
The Islamic, Abdali	6661737
Al-Ahli, Abdali	661646
Italian, Al-Mubarrak	7771012
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich	7751125
Army, Marka	8916115
Queen Alia Hospital	6224030
Amal Hospital	674155
ZARQA:	
Zarqa Govt. Hospital	09983323
Zarqa National Hospital	09900560
Ibn Sina Hospital	09988732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital	09999990
IRBID:	
Prince Basma Hospital	03212555
Green Catholic Hospital	02322225
Al-Nafesa Hospital	02324710
AQABA:	
Prince Nayef Hospital	03314111
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
13:10 ... Sharjah (AH)	
13:30 ... Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
13:35 ... Munich (GF)	
14:00 ... Riyadh (SV)	
21:20 ... Cairo (MS)	
21:15 ... Beirut (ME)	
21:30 ... Dubai (EK)	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ)	
Flights (Terminal 1)	
09:45 ... Singapore, Kuala Lumpur	
10:00 ... New Delhi (RJ)	
10:15 ... Riyadh (RJ)	
10:15 ... Agadeh (RJ)	
11:00 ... Beirut (RJ)	
11:00 ... Colombo (RJ)	
18:30 ... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)	
18:30 ... Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
19:15 ... Bangkok, Calcutta (RJ)	
19:15 ... London, Berlin (RJ)	
19:30 ... Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)	
19:35 ... Athens (RJ)	
00:30 ... Larnaca (RJ)	
Other Flights (Terminal 2)	
13:10 ... Sharjah (AH)	
13:30 ... Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
13:35 ... Munich (GF)	
14:00 ... Riyadh (SV)	
21:20 ... Cairo (MS)	
21:15 ... Beirut (ME)	
21:30 ... Dubai (EK)	

HAJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

Dep. Amman ... 8:00 a.m. every Monday
Arr. Damascus ... 5:00 p.m. every Monday
Dep. Damascus ... 7:30 a.m. every Sunday
Arr. Amman ... 5:00 p.m. every Sunday

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in fils per kg

Apple	650/400
Banana	600
Banana (Makassar)	620
Cabbage	120/60
Carrot	300/200
Cauliflower	250/200
Cucumbers (large)	200/120
Cucumbers (small)	400/320
Eggplant	150/100
Garlic	900/500
Grapes	420/200
Guava	300/200
Lemon	200/150
Marrow (large)	300/120
Marrow (small)	400/320
Mulakhshah	200/170
Onion (dry)	200/150
Onion (wet)	280/180
Pepper (hot)	240/160
Pepper (sweet)	300/200
Potato	300/250
Pomegranate	350/250
Peaches	900/600
Tomato	120/80
String beans	800/500
Watermelon	140/80

WHAT'S GOING

MARCH

Only marking the March 14th anniversary of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, the Jordanian government has decided to hold a national exhibition in Amman.

THE FIRST JORDANIAN FESTIVAL

Ministry of Education and Higher Education has announced that the first Jordanian festival will be held in Amman.

EXHIBITIONS

Ministry of Education and Higher Education has announced that the first Jordanian festival will be held in Amman.

India-Pakistan ties flounder again as diplomats expelled

NEW DELHI (AFP) — Relations between India and Pakistan were floundering Wednesday after the mutual expulsion of two diplomats and New Delhi's rejection of an Islamabad offer on nuclear weapons.

Analysts here expressed fears over a fresh slide in mutual ties, a day after Pakistan expelled an Indian diplomat, triggering the expulsion of a Pakistani diplomat from India.

Islamabad Tuesday declared consul J.J. Singh at the Indian Consulate General in Karachi, Pakistan's commercial capital, persona non grata and asked him to quit the country within a week.

New Delhi struck back, expelling First Secretary Javed Ahmad at the Pakistan High Commission here, reliving the tit-for-tat expulsions last month of four members of each country's diplomatic missions on charges of spying.

Indian officials were not available for comment on the expulsions. But diplomats warned that it would further strain bilateral relations between India and Pakistan, who have fought three wars since 1947.

An Indian expert on South Asia agreed. "This is going to deteriorate the relationship further," said Abha Dixit of the Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis. "It will certainly hamper their diplomatic ties."

"The repeated expulsion of each other's diplomats is sending a very wrong signal to the international community," said Mr. Dixit.

"There is a tremendous amount of hostility and suspicion between the two countries," she added.

Also Tuesday, India rejected a Pakistani offer for a joint declaration renouncing nuclear weapons, calling it "an obvious bid to cover up (Pakistan's) discomfiture and embarrassment" over its nuclear programme.

An Indian Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Islamabad proposal was the result of last week's admission by former Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif that his country had a nuclear bomb and would not hesitate to use it.

The spokesman said the Pakistani offer was not acceptable since Islamabad had turned down Indian proposals in January for confidence-building measures in the nuclear field.

Mr. Sharif's statement has caused alarm in India, which exploded a nuclear device in 1974 but says it does not have a "ready-to-use" nuclear weapon.

Mr. Sharif's statement also maintains that it does not possess nuclear weapons. India's main opposition party said Wednesday that India-Pakistan relations would continue to take further knocks unless the two countries solved their dispute over Kashmir.

"There is increasing tension between India and Pakistan," said spokesman K.L. Sharma of the Hindu-revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, or Indian People's Party). "It is quite clear that Kash-

mir is the bone of contention and the only concrete step to improve relations would be to sort out this issue in a negotiated way," Mr. Sharma added.

Two of the wars between India and Pakistan have been fought over Kashmir, a picturesque province held by the two neighbours. A bloody Muslim separatist campaign in Indian-held Kashmir has claimed more than 10,000 lives since 1989.

India accuses Pakistan of arming the Muslim guerrillas in Kashmir. Islamabad denies the accusation.

Pakistan Wednesday accused India of promoting terrorism to try to destabilise its smaller neighbours in South Asia.

"If there is a terrorist state in South Asia it is none other than India," said Munir Akram, a Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Mr. Akram, without providing evidence, accused India of fomenting anti-government violence in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Pakistan.

"India is promoting terrorism in the region, in Pakistan it is in the (southern) province of Sindh," he said. Hundreds of people have been killed in ethnically and politically motivated violence in the province over the past few years.

The militant combatants have been Muslim immigrants to Pakistan at the time of independence in 1947 and secessionists demanding an independent Sindh.

"India is broadcasting propaganda aimed at Sindh promoting its secession from Pakistan," said Mr. Akram.

Meanwhile, India made no concessions to international mediators who, in a ground-breaking meeting with New Delhi, sought to win its support for curbs on the spread of missile technology. Indian newspapers said Wednesday.

The newspapers said senior officials from the United States, Britain, Switzerland and Australia made no headway at a meeting Tuesday in persuading India to impose voluntary curbs on the proliferation of missile technology.

The officials were seeking New Delhi's eventual support for the missile technology control regime (MTCR), which tries to prevent the spread of technology capable of generating nuclear arms or delivery vehicles for nuclear warheads.

Tuesday's meeting in New Delhi was the first time India had held talks with MTCR officials. The Foreign Ministry called the session useful and comprehensive, and said the government would consider future talks with the MTCR.

India has long said the voluntary club is discriminatory because it would allow Western nations to add to their stockpiles but prevent others from developing missiles. "There is no change in India's stand of not subscribing to the discriminatory missile technology control regime even after today's comprehensive discussions here between the visiting MTCR team and Indian officials," the Hindustan Times said.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin (right) is greeted by a group of flag waving children on his arrival in Germany from Moscow. Mr. Yeltsin was in Germany to attend the ceremony marking the departure of the last Russian soldiers from here (AFP photo)

Yeltsin and Kohl see history differently as Russian troops leave

BERLIN (AFP) — President Boris Yeltsin, marking the departure Wednesday of the last Russian troops from German soil, glorified the liberating role the Red Army played in Hitler's Germany, but glossed over its part in butchering 40 years of Stalinist dictatorship in the east of the country.

By contrast, in his speech at one of several ceremonies being held here, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl put Hitler's and Stalin's crimes on a more equal footing, and said the post-war wrongs Russians inflicted on Germans should not be forgotten.

Mr. Yeltsin said that the victorious Russian troops who entered Berlin half a century ago "did not stay on foreign soil in order to enslave and dominate."

He stressed the debt owed today to the sacrifice and heroism of the liberators. "It was here in Berlin that the root of an unparalleled evil was torn out and the ashes of Hitler's monstrous plans thrown to the winds," Mr. Yeltsin declared at the ceremony in the city's 19th century theatre.

"We have no right to forget that the Nazis razed many towns and whole states to the ground," he said. "The Russians in soldiers' uniform did not come to Germany to flatten it to the earth, to annihilate the German people or make them the servant of the Russians," Mr. Yeltsin declared.

Mr. Yeltsin said Russia had always made a distinction between ordinary German people and the Nazi clique that came to power. "The Russian leader simply attributed the post-war division of Germany to its war defeat. The defeat led to the division of the German land," Mr. Yeltsin said, while recognising that "its living corpse was carved up with barbed wire and minefields."

He presented the 49-year-long Russian military presence on German soil as "an effort in favour of peace" for which he said thanks were due.

At the time of German reunification in 1990 — which Mr. Yeltsin in his speech hailed wholeheartedly — the number of Russian troops was still some 390,000.

In his speech, the German chancellor thanked Mr. Yeltsin for completing the Russian troop withdrawal ahead of the Sept. 12 deadline agreed in 1990 with the victo-

Briton jailed for filming bare-legged girls

DUBAI (R) — A British man has been jailed for six months and ordered deported for filming under the skirts of girls and women in Dubai supermarkets with a hidden video camera, the newspaper Al-Khaleej said Tuesday.

The man, named only as Gary, placed a small video camera close to the floor in supermarkets to film under the skirts of unwary females browsing along the shelves. He was caught by chance by two passing policemen and found in possession of six such video films. Some scenes had been enlarged using special equipment he kept at home.

An appeals court found him guilty of violating the decency of those women, although none had been identified. It ordered he be deported from the United Arab Emirates on completing his sentence, the paper said.

A lower court had earlier dismissed the charges because none of the women had complained.

Women conquer Iran's highest mountain

TEHRAN (AFP) — A group of Iranian women, fully covered in keeping with Islamic tradition, climbed to the top of the country's highest mountain for the first time since the 1979 revolution, a newspaper reported.

The group of 16 students from Tehran universities, climbed the northeastern flank of the Damavand in northeastern Iran to the peak, 5,671 metres (18,781 feet) above ground, the daily Hamshahri said. It was an unprecedented climb for women who have been increasingly excluded from sports since the revolution because of religious restrictions.

But mountain climbing has become considered a practical sport for women because they can take part fully-covered meeting Islamic standards.

Singapore schools face rising indiscipline

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore's promotion of Asian values may be having little impact in its schools where teachers say truancy, gangsterism and in some cases drug and alcohol abuse are on the rise. Reporting on a recent meeting of 290 teachers, the Singapore Teachers' Union (STU) said other problems in schools include stealing, intimacy with the opposite sex, vandalism, gambling and the viewing of pornographic material. The disclosures run in the face of a longstanding government campaign to promote Confucianist values among Singaporeans including respect for elders and teachers. Cases of "open defiance and blatant disrespect for teachers are increasing in our schools," union president Lawrence Sia wrote in The Mentor, the STU's newsletter, received Tuesday. In a National Day address to Singaporeans last week Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said his government would defend and strengthen family values. Schools can teach ethics and Confucianism, "but school-teachers cannot replace parents and grandparents as the principal models for their children," he said. Mr. Sia said that while the STU was addressing the problem, the government could also help. "The STU is of the view that the Education Ministry must also do more to support the teachers to deal with this problem," Mr. Sia said. The teachers cited peer influence, poor parental supervision and unfavourable home backgrounds as common causes for misbehaviour in schools, the newsletter said.

Chinese taxi drivers offer back-seat company

BEIJING (R) — Chinese taxi drivers, desperate for custom, are offering convivial back-seat female company as part of the service, the Beijing Evening News said. It is now common for drivers to carry cities across China to carry pretty young women in the front seat while the customer gets in and amuse him with conversation, the newspaper reported. In Nanjing, for example, 20 per cent of taxis now offer this service and some customers refuse to get in unless such a lady is present, it said.

New Bangladesh army chief takes charge

DHAKA (AFP) — Lieutenant General Abu Saleh Mohammad Nasim Wednesday took over as the new commander in chief of Bangladesh's 100,000-strong army, defence officials said.

Outgoing commander in chief Lieutenant General Mohammad Nour Uddin Khan formally handed over the post to Gen. Nasim at a ceremony at the army headquarters in the Dhaka Cantonment military barracks, the officials said.

Gen. Nasim, 45, a decorated veteran of Bangladesh's 1971 independence war, was promoted Wednesday to the rank of lieutenant general. Gen. Khan, according to the Morning Sun daily, would be appointed Bangladesh's new high commissioner, or ambassador to Canada, a post that has been vacant for about a year.

Analysis earlier said Prime Minister Khaleda Zia had carefully chosen her new army chief to maintain a precarious balance between different military factions.

Her choice, one analyst said, was aimed at averting a power grab by the military which ruled Bangladesh directly or indirectly between 1975 and 1990.

The opposition Akker Kagoj daily, owned and edited by retired army Colonel Kazi Shahed Ahmad, Wednesday welcomed Gen. Nasim's appointment.

In a special commentary, the newspaper said people were happy to see a war veteran once again taking over the army's leadership. "As long as there is a freedom fighter in the army, the nation should see one of them as the army chief," the newspaper said.

Meanwhile, thousands of demonstrators took the streets of Dhaka Tuesday as opposition parties resumed their boycott of parliament, which re-opened following a summer recess.

Police stepped up to 7,000 Combined Action Council (CAC) activists armed with sticks from marching to the Parliament House. The demonstrators were met by police and some were injured.

The activists threw stones and sticks at armed police, and later tried to break through a security barricade. They eventually left the streets of central Dhaka after offering their prayers.

China signs death warrant for Hong Kong reforms

BEIJING (R) — China Wednesday formally signed the death warrant for Hong Kong's political reforms, ordering that the British colony's legislature should not live a day beyond Beijing's 1997 takeover.

"China issued a legal regulation today to abolish Hong Kong's political structure based on Governor Chris Patten's 'reform package' and establish a new one when the country regains sovereignty over Hong Kong on July 1, 1997," the official Xinhua News Agency said.

The widely expected move was approved by the standing committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), China's parliament.

"The last Legislative Council, city government, District Government and District Board will be terminated on June 30, 1997," Xinhua quoted the order as saying.

In Hong Kong, a government spokeswoman said China would have to answer to six million local people if it dismantled the colony's legislature.

"As the governor has pointed out, there is no reason why those arrangements should be dismantled," the spokeswoman said. "If in 1997 those arrangements are dismantled, those who take responsibility for that will have to explain themselves to six million people here in Hong Kong."

China has said repeatedly it will not allow Mr. Patten's democratic reforms to stall. Months of inconclusive talks between Beijing and London on the subject broke down irrevocably last year.

Elections have not yet

taken place under the new much-expanded franchise, which was narrowly approved by Hong Kong's legislature on June 30, three years to the day before the Beijing takeover.

China's parliament reiterated Beijing's assertion that the Patten reforms went against both the spirit and the letter of previous agreements between Britain and China, including the key joint declaration that agreed on the 1997 return of sovereignty.

It also said the reforms violated previous bills passed by the Chinese parliament.

"The legislature says in its decision that those organisations unilaterally set up by the British side violated the Sino-British Joint Declaration, the basic law and the NPC decision," Xinhua said. The basic law is a constitution for post-1997 Hong Kong.

Britain says the Patten reforms are within the scope set by the previous pacts.

Xinhua said the new legislature and government for Hong Kong would be set up in line with a 1990 order by China's parliament.

It said details would be worked out by an organising committee designing post-1997 Hong Kong, which will be considered a special administrative region under China.

Beijing has promised Hong Kong a great deal of autonomy after the takeover, especially in economics. The territory will be able to keep its successful brand of laissez-faire capitalism.

China calls its formula "one country, two systems." Many in Hong Kong worry about the autonomy will actually work in practice.

New president takes office in Panama today

PANAMA CITY (R) — Businessman Ernesto Perez Balladarez is set to be inaugurated Thursday as president of Panama in an unexpectedly quick return to power for the party of ousted strongman Manuel Noriega.

But Mr. Perez Balladarez, a stalwart of the party that supported Mr. Noriega until he was removed by a U.S. invasion in 1989, is putting distance between the party and its former leader and pledging to take a hardline against corruption.

Mr. Perez Balladarez, a 48-year-old former banker, is also expected to make a friendly gesture to the United States by reversing the current government's line.

"The new government looks with a lot of sympathy on the request for Panama to take in Cuban refugees but we cannot announce anything officially until we take power," Sept. 1, Bertha Thayer, an adviser to Foreign Minister-designate Gabriel Lewis Galindo, told Reuters.

Organisers said representatives of more than 40 nations are expected to attend Mr. Perez Balladarez's inauguration, which marks the first peaceful transfer of power.

At the time of German reunification in 1990 — which Mr. Yeltsin in his speech hailed wholeheartedly — the number of Russian troops was still some 390,000.

In his speech, the German chancellor thanked Mr. Yeltsin for completing the Russian troop withdrawal ahead of the Sept. 12 deadline agreed in 1990 with the victo-

N. Korean envoy to China may signal power transfer

SEOUL (R) — North Korea's decision to send a special envoy to China signals an imminent announcement of a new leader in the Stalinist state, diplomats and analysts in Seoul said Wednesday.

North Korea said Tuesday it was sending Vice Foreign Minister Song Ho-Gyong to China as a special envoy.

"Song will be making the first public and official visit to Beijing by a senior North Korean official since the death of Kim Il-Sung. This appears to be the completion of reshuffling in North Korea's hierarchy," an Asian diplomat said.

"It is an established practice between North Korea and China to notify major changes in their countries," he said.

North Korea President Kim Il-Sung was reported to have died of heart attack on July 8 after he designated his eldest son, Kim Jong-Il, as his successor, but the younger Kim has yet to be named as the country's Communist Party chief or state president.

"It is quite likely that Song will notify leaders in Beijing of Pyongyang's plan to hold a huge rally soon to formally

name Kim Jong-Il as the party leader," said Ko Tae-Woo, chief analyst at the Institute of North Korean Studies.

"He will probably ask Beijing to take steps to help consolidate Kim Jong-Il's legitimacy," Mr. Ko said.

China is the isolated North's last remaining major ally, and its blessing of the Communist world's first dynastic succession is seen as vital to Kim Jong-Il, who lacks his father's charisma.

The Asian diplomat said China's support for Kim Jong-Il's leadership was particularly important as North Korea's arch-rival, South Korea, had built up an important business partnership with Beijing, diminishing the North's political leverage.

South Korea's Trade Ministry said two-way trade between Seoul and Beijing was expected to total \$12 billion this year, up from \$9 billion in 1993.

Chinese figures put trade with South Korea in the first half of this year at \$3 billion, up 59 per cent on the same 1993 period, while trade with North Korea fell 21.9 per cent to \$335 million.

"As this trade and invest-

ment grow North Korea's influence in Beijing wanes, especially after the death of Kim Il-Sung, who knew many of China's veteran political and military leaders," a diplomat in Beijing said.

Kim Jong-Il has rarely visited China and does not have the good personal relations with Chinese leaders his father enjoyed.

North Korea-watchers in Seoul said North Korea's elite must have been preoccupied with the task of restructuring its hierarchy around Kim Jong-Il since the elder Kim's death.

"Now it is beginning to address the importance of its external relations," said Lee Seo-Haig, a director-general of the government-backed Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security in Seoul.

"Song's visit could mark the first step to seek continuity of its external relations," Mr. Lee added.

Mr. Ko said clearer signs of the North's pecking order would surface on Sept. 9, the anniversary of the Communist state's foundation.

The naming of Kim Jong-Il as the new Communist Party chief could coincide with

Support grows

WASHINGTON (R) — Support for the North Korean leader's decision to send a special envoy to China is growing in the United States, analysts say. The move is seen as a signal of a new leadership in the isolated North Korean state, which has been a major concern of the United States since the end of the Vietnam War. The analysts said that the move was a clear indication of a power transfer in North Korea, and that the new leader would likely be Kim Jong-Il, the son of the late leader Kim Il-Sung. They also noted that the move was in line with the long-standing policy of the United States to engage North Korea in dialogue and to seek a peaceful resolution of the Korean Peninsula issue.

Japan to spend \$1 billion on defense. The Japanese government has announced that it will increase its defense spending by 1.5 per cent in 1997, bringing the total to \$1 billion. This is the first time in over a decade that Japan's defense spending has increased. The move is seen as a response to the growing military power of China and the United States, and is also in line with the Japanese government's long-standing policy of maintaining a strong defense force to protect the country's security.

Chinese taxi drivers offer back-seat company. Chinese taxi drivers in Beijing are offering a new service to their customers: back-seat company. The drivers are offering to carry young women in the front seat while the customer gets in and amuse him with conversation. This service is now common for drivers to carry cities across China to carry pretty young women in the front seat while the customer gets in and amuse him with conversation. The newspaper reported that in Nanjing, for example, 20 per cent of taxis now offer this service and some customers refuse to get in unless such a lady is present.

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Briton jailed for filming bare-legged girls

DUBAI (R) — A British man has been jailed for months and ordered deported for filming women in Dubai skirts with a hidden camera, the newspaper *Khaleej* said Tuesday. The man, named Gary, placed a small camera close to the door of a supermarket to film women browsing along the shelves. He was caught by chance by two passing policemen. He was found in possession of such video films. Some of the scenes had been enlarged using special equipment he had at home. An appeals court found him guilty of violating the decency of those women, although none had been identified. It ordered he be deported from the United Arab Emirates on completing his sentence, the paper said. A lower court had earlier dismissed the charges because none of the women had complained.

Women conquer Iran's highest mountain

TEHRAN (AFP) — A group of Iranian women, fully covered in keeping with Islamic tradition, climbed to the top of the country's highest mountain for the first time since the 1979 revolution. The group of 16 students from the northeastern flank of the Damavand in northeastern Iran to the peak, 5,611 metres (18,710 feet) above ground, the daily *Hamshah* said. It was an unprecedented climb for women who have been increasingly excluded from sports since the revolution because of religious restrictions. But mountain climbing has become considered a practical sport for women because they can take part in covered meetings Islamic standards.

Singapore schools face rising indiscipline

SINGAPORE (AFP) — Singapore's promotion of Asian values may be having little impact in its schools where teachers say truancy, gangsterism and in some cases drug and alcohol abuse are on the rise. Reporting on a recent meeting of 20 teachers, the Singapore Teachers' Union (STU) said other problems in schools include stealing, intimacy with the opposite sex, vandalism, gambling and the viewing of pornographic material. The disclosures run in the face of a longstanding government campaign to promote Confucian values among Singaporeans including respect for elders and teachers. Cases of "open defiance and blatant disrespect for teachers are increasing in our schools," union president Lawrence Saw wrote in *The Mentor*, the STU's newsletter, received Tuesday. In a National Day address to Singaporeans last week Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said his government would defend and strengthen family values. Schools can teach ethics and Confucianism, "but school teachers cannot replace parents and grandparents as the principal models for their children," he said. Mr. Saw said that while the STU was addressing the problem, the government could also help. "The STU is of the view that the Education Ministry must also do more to support the teachers to deal with this problem," Mr. Saw said. The teachers cited peer influence, poor parental supervision and unfavourable home backgrounds as common causes for misbehaviour in schools, the newsletter said.

Chinese taxi drivers offer back-seat company

BEIJING (R) — Chinese taxi drivers, desperate for a new business, are offering back-seat female company, the *Beijing Evening News* said. It is now common for drivers to pick up young women in the front seat who jump into the back when the customer gets in and amuse him with conversation, the newspaper reported. In Nanjing, for example, 20 per cent of taxi drivers offer this service and some unless such a lady is present.



A group of Rwandan refugees wait for authorization to cross the border at the Goma border post. Over 3,000 Rwandan refugees are still attempting to flee into Zaire despite a new planned meeting between Rwandan and Zairean government ministers to lead to a full agreement on the voluntary repatriation of refugees (AFP photo)

Bosnian premier blasts Britain, France

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic criticised Britain and France Wednesday for threatening to withdraw their peacekeepers from Bosnia if the U.N. arms embargo against government troops is lifted. "These threats come from the two countries that have insisted on keeping the arms embargo on Bosnia, the two governments that gave a tremendous advantage to our enemy," he told Reuters. "I would understand and respect total neutrality, but once you make a decision to deprive a people and a country of the right to defend themselves in a cataclysmic situation you cannot just walk away because your troops are in danger." Bosnia's Muslim and Croat-backed government has been battling Bosnian Serbs for 28 months. U.S. President Bill Clinton intends to ask the U.N. Security Council to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia if Serbs do not accept an international peace plan by Oct. 15. Bosnian Serbs voted last weekend in a referendum to back their leaders in rejecting the plan, which would divide Bosnia roughly in half between the Serbs and their Muslim and Croat foes. Britain and France, who contribute the majority of U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia, support the lifting of the embargo as a last resort only. They say the move would escalate what has been a low-intensity conflict into an all-out war, forcing them to withdraw their lightly-armed, widely dispersed troops.

"I do not see the argument for automatic withdrawal," Mr. Silajdzic said. "Instead I see the British and French responsibility and liability to Bosnia. It would be a final admission on the part of the international community that they cannot stop a bunch of fascists killing people at their will in Europe." Rebel Serbs have enjoyed a huge advantage in tanks and heavy artillery over government troops throughout the war and, until recently, regular resupply from neighbouring Serbia. The Security Council has repeatedly identified the Serb side as the aggressor in Bosnia, and it locked this advantage in heavy arms in place with an arms embargo that hobbled government troops only. Mediators shrug off Bosnia's moral complaints, saying the embargo is defensible because it has prevented a wider Balkan or European war by containing the conflict. France expressed support Wednesday for a Russian proposal to hold a new meeting of the international contact group on Bosnia to consider lifting sanctions against Belgrade. French Foreign Minister Richard Dure said Paris has suggested a meeting next week of senior officials, "with the idea of an eventual meeting at ministerial level." Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev called Monday for a further meeting of the five-power group at ministerial level to discuss how to respond to Belgrade's embargo on its former Bosnian Serb allies. Mr. Kozyrev criticised the West's lukewarm reaction to the Yugoslav move. So far Russia's partners in the group — Britain, France, Germany and the United States — have insisted that Belgrade allow international observers along the Serbia-Bosnia border to make sure its break is made concrete. Mr. Dure said next week's meeting should "evaluate" the situation, especially after Mr. Kozyrev's recent two-day visit to former Yugoslavia, stressing that the contact group's "continued coherence and credibility" was a priority. At every stage of the political and diplomatic process, (the group's members) have compared their analyses and adopted a common position. I believe the member-countries of the group all support the maintenance of this cohesion," he said. He could not say if sanctions could be lifted, recalling only that the contact group had always taken a "double approach — to punish those who reject the plan and encourage those who support it."

Belgrade, faced with increased sanctions against the rump Yugoslav state of Serbia and Montenegro, severed ties with the Bosnian Serbs in August over their rejection of the contact group's latest peace plan for Bosnia. The rejection was sealed by a referendum last weekend, with preliminary results showing that at least 96 per cent of Bosnian Serbs rejected the peace plan which reserved 49 per cent of Bosnia for Bosnian Serbs and 51 per cent for the Muslims and Croats. Russia, long-time ally of Belgrade, described the boycott decision by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic as "courageous" and criticised the West's "bureaucratic inertia" in facing new realities. On Tuesday, Washington said it was disappointed by Moscow's stance which it said risked destroying the very cohesion within the contact group that had pushed Belgrade to break with its former ally. The United States and Germany are insisting that sanctions cannot be lifted against Belgrade unless it agrees to international patrols to ensure that the Serbia-Bosnia border is sealed. Washington is also keen to lift an international arms embargo which hits the mainly Muslim Bosnian government hardest, in response to the Bosnian Serb "no." In a newspaper interview Tuesday, French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur repeated a threat to withdraw French peacekeepers from Bosnia if the arms embargo were lifted but said Belgrade's cutting of ties with the Bosnian Serbs "could be a turning point in the conflict."

In a separate decision, the French cabinet Wednesday approved a bill adapting French law to allow cooperation with an international tribunal in The Hague, set up to judge possible war crimes in former Yugoslavia. Those in the state-owned Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) headed the call but most of the workers in private oil companies have ignored the order. The sacked union chiefs insist the strike continues. "We remain on strike," a spokesman for the white-collar oil workers union PENGAS-SAN said by telephone. The union leaders have said they are in hiding to avoid arrest. Frank Kokori, the general secretary of the main oil union NUPENG, which launched the strike before it was joined by PENGAS-SAN, was detained shortly after Gen. Abacha's broadcast. The union leaders are demanding in their suit that he should be produced in court. They are also challenging the government's appointment of administrators to run their unions. Their strike had choked off fuel supplies and cut Nigeria's crude oil production by about 20 per cent. But the fuel crunch appears to be easing. The long queues for petrol visible in most cities in the last two months appeared shorter Wednesday. Motorists said the black market price of fuel had also come down. "Last week a 50 litre jerrycan of petrol was 1,500 naira (\$68). Today I bought it for 800 naira (\$36)," one said. Nigeria's biggest oil refinery, located in the oil city of Port Harcourt, reopened Monday. Three of the country's four refineries had been put out of action by the strike. The Nigerian Tribune newspaper reported Wednesday that 15 people had been apprehended by securitymen in Port Harcourt while allegedly attempting to bomb pipelines leading from the refinery to other parts of the country. It did not say when the arrests took place and a police spokesman declined to comment. The government has said it is taking seriously threats by union chiefs to sabotage the oil industry, Nigeria's economic mainstay. Gen. Abacha, facing the toughest challenge of his 10-month rule, last week sacked his army and navy chiefs.

Rwandan refugee talks stall

GOMA, Zaire (R) — Talks between Zaire and Rwanda on the 1.2 million refugees in squalid camps in eastern Zaire ran into more problems Wednesday when the Rwandan delegations failed to turn up. On the other side of the central African country, the United Nations said continued killings were driving 12,000 refugees a week into Tanzania and five to eight bodies a day were being fished out of the Kagera River. A U.N. official said the killings appeared to be the work of Hutu militiamen turned bandits and not of Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) soldiers seeking revenge on Hutus for slaughtering Tutsi tribesmen. After two days of postponements to the talks in the eastern Zairean town of Goma, Zairean delegates waited for two hours at the Community of the Great Lakes building before dispersing. "They may meet tomorrow," one said. Delegates said the two delegations of technical experts were having trouble agreeing on a working document and the process was also being held up by protocol over reception of the Rwandan ministers. Justice Minister Kamanda Wa Kamanda and Defence Minister Admiral Mavua, representing the Zairean government, must first receive Rwanda's Interior Minister Seth Sendashonga and two other cabinet ministers, whose names have not been released, representing the Tutsi-dominated government in Kigali. The Rwandans, anxious to persuade the Hutus who fled in the wake of the RPF victory to come home, are asking the Zairean army to protect refugees who want to return from the Hutu militiamen who terrorise the camps around Goma. The refugees fled to Zaire after RPF forces routed the former Hutu government army and allied militiamen who conducted massacres of Tutsis and moderate Hutus following the assassination of Hutu President Juvenal Habyarimana on April 6. The U.N. has estimated more than a million people were killed. The official Rwandan delegates also want assurances, following reports about a Rwandan training camp near Bukavu, that the 28,000 members of Rwanda's defeated army now in Zaire will not be allowed to launch a counter-attack on Kigali. They demand the return of money, weapons, cars and machinery taken when the army and Hutu-dominated government fled to Zaire. "That's the most difficult area. It's hard to talk to people from people who have been terrorised," said one delegate. The Zaireans hope the Rwandan government can reassure refugees it is safe to return home, before the rainy season starts in earnest and brings a new wave of disease to camps where relief workers are only now starting to bring deadly diseases like cholera under control. Security is already a problem and shelter is likely to become one when rain starts to wash away the rudimentary shelters housing many of the refugees. There are regular reports of lynchings in the camps, the latest Tuesday in Honga, northwest of Bukavu, where refugees stoned to death a man they accused of being a Tutsi spy. The United Nations has begun deploying a small number of human rights monitors to reassure refugees and gather evidence of human rights abuses.

MIAMI (Agencies) — The U.S. Coast Guard rescued 731 Cubans trying to reach Florida by raft Tuesday, a significant increase since a weekend storm prevented people from leaving the Communist island nation. That storm and repeated warnings that rafters would be held indefinitely at the U.S. navy's base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, reduced the numbers of refugees dramatically. Only 84 rafters were picked up by the Coast Guard Sunday, but that number increased to 295 Monday. By mid-afternoon Tuesday, Coast Guard ships had picked up 731 Cubans, a surge that mirrored what happened last week when the flow of refugees increased to as many as 3,000 a day. "We were kind of pleased with the low numbers we were getting," said Chief Petty Officer Steve Sapp. "We were hoping for zero, but now we're back up to 731. It's not promising." The Coast Guard had picked up 17,559 Cubans in August, as of Monday, bringing the year's total to 22,290 — more than in the last 10 years combined, said senior chief Luis Diaz. Cubans began fleeing their homeland in large numbers Aug. 5 after the worst rioting of Cuban President Fidel Castro's rule. By last week, the flow of refugees had grown into the largest exodus since the 1980 Mariel boatlift brought 125,000 Cubans to Florida's shores in five months. But a weekend storm that churned up seven-foot (two-metre) waves in the Florida Strait and the new U.S. policy of detaining all Cubans either at Guantanamo or in an immigration detention centre west of Miami slowed the flood. On Tuesday, however, dozens of rafts were spotted bobbing in the 90-mile (145-km) strait separating Key West from Cuba. "Everybody in the back of their minds sort of expected this to happen," said Lt. J.J. Fisher, commander of the 110-foot (33-metre) Coast Guard cutter Drummond, as it spotted rafters. The refugees waved flags and shirts to attract attention and pleaded for water. Coast Guard personnel on small boats threw them life rafts and tried to keep them grouped together to make it easier to pick them up for transport to the Guantanamo Bay naval base. Although many of the refugees rescued in recent days have said they would rather be detained at a U.S. base than remain in Cuba, some of the 1,300 Cubans being held in the barbed-wire tent camp at Guantanamo have asked to be sent home. U.S. officials said. "We're seeing Cubans that are reporting that they would not have left if they had known they were going to Guantanamo," said Chief Petty Officer Sapp. "Now

Nigeria's sacked oil union chiefs back in court

LAGOS (R) — Leaders of Nigeria's oil unions, sacked by military ruler General Sani Abacha in a crackdown on their nine-week-old strike to topple his government, were back in court Wednesday to challenge their dismissal. Represented by radical lawyer Gani Fawehinmi, himself a target of armed attacks on several pro-democracy activists last week, the unionists are asking the court to declare their sacking illegal. At his first sitting on Aug. 23, the judge temporarily reinstated them pending Wednesday's bearing of their suit. Oil workers struck on July 4 to demand Gen. Abacha free Mr. Moshod Abiola, the wealthy businessman widely believed to have won last year's annulled presidential election, and cede power to him. Mr. Abiola is being tried for treason for proclaiming himself president in defiance of Nigeria's army rulers, a case that has unleashed an avalanche of riots and strikes. Gen. Abacha sacked the union leaders in a state of the nation broadcast two weeks ago in which he also ordered the oil workers to return to their jobs. Those in the state-owned Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) headed the call but most of the workers in private oil companies have ignored the order. The sacked union chiefs insist the strike continues. "We remain on strike," a spokesman for the white-collar oil workers union PENGAS-SAN said by telephone. The union leaders have said they are in hiding to avoid arrest. Frank Kokori, the general secretary of the main oil union NUPENG, which launched the strike before it was joined by PENGAS-SAN, was detained shortly after Gen. Abacha's broadcast. The union leaders are demanding in their suit that he should be produced in court. They are also challenging the government's appointment of administrators to run their unions. Their strike had choked off fuel supplies and cut Nigeria's crude oil production by about 20 per cent. But the fuel crunch appears to be easing. The long queues for petrol visible in most cities in the last two months appeared shorter Wednesday. Motorists said the black market price of fuel had also come down. "Last week a 50 litre jerrycan of petrol was 1,500 naira (\$68). Today I bought it for 800 naira (\$36)," one said. Nigeria's biggest oil refinery, located in the oil city of Port Harcourt, reopened Monday. Three of the country's four refineries had been put out of action by the strike. The Nigerian Tribune newspaper reported Wednesday that 15 people had been apprehended by securitymen in Port Harcourt while allegedly attempting to bomb pipelines leading from the refinery to other parts of the country. It did not say when the arrests took place and a police spokesman declined to comment. The government has said it is taking seriously threats by union chiefs to sabotage the oil industry, Nigeria's economic mainstay. Gen. Abacha, facing the toughest challenge of his 10-month rule, last week sacked his army and navy chiefs.



Crew members from the U.S. Coast Guard cutter Legare rescue Cuban rafters some 30 miles off the coast of Cuba. Coast guard authorities reported seeing some 30 rafts on the Florida Strait by midday Tuesday (AFP photo)

Cuban exodus resumes in earnest

MIAMI (Agencies) — The U.S. Coast Guard rescued 731 Cubans trying to reach Florida by raft Tuesday, a significant increase since a weekend storm prevented people from leaving the Communist island nation. That storm and repeated warnings that rafters would be held indefinitely at the U.S. navy's base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, reduced the numbers of refugees dramatically. Only 84 rafters were picked up by the Coast Guard Sunday, but that number increased to 295 Monday. By mid-afternoon Tuesday, Coast Guard ships had picked up 731 Cubans, a surge that mirrored what happened last week when the flow of refugees increased to as many as 3,000 a day. "We were kind of pleased with the low numbers we were getting," said Chief Petty Officer Steve Sapp. "We were hoping for zero, but now we're back up to 731. It's not promising." The Coast Guard had picked up 17,559 Cubans in August, as of Monday, bringing the year's total to 22,290 — more than in the last 10 years combined, said senior chief Luis Diaz. Cubans began fleeing their homeland in large numbers Aug. 5 after the worst rioting of Cuban President Fidel Castro's rule. By last week, the flow of refugees had grown into the largest exodus since the 1980 Mariel boatlift brought 125,000 Cubans to Florida's shores in five months. But a weekend storm that churned up seven-foot (two-metre) waves in the Florida Strait and the new U.S. policy of detaining all Cubans either at Guantanamo or in an immigration detention centre west of Miami slowed the flood. On Tuesday, however, dozens of rafts were spotted bobbing in the 90-mile (145-km) strait separating Key West from Cuba. "Everybody in the back of their minds sort of expected this to happen," said Lt. J.J. Fisher, commander of the 110-foot (33-metre) Coast Guard cutter Drummond, as it spotted rafters. The refugees waved flags and shirts to attract attention and pleaded for water. Coast Guard personnel on small boats threw them life rafts and tried to keep them grouped together to make it easier to pick them up for transport to the Guantanamo Bay naval base. Although many of the refugees rescued in recent days have said they would rather be detained at a U.S. base than remain in Cuba, some of the 1,300 Cubans being held in the barbed-wire tent camp at Guantanamo have asked to be sent home. U.S. officials said. "We're seeing Cubans that are reporting that they would not have left if they had known they were going to Guantanamo," said Chief Petty Officer Sapp. "Now

you're seeing some of the same faces. They want to go wherever they want to go. They want to go to the U.S. official arrangements for these refugees when U.S. officials when U.S. migration talks resume New York Thursday. Such talks were held in December. The rafter exodus has boosted recruitment in Miami's Cuban exile paramilitary groups and prompted renewed calls for commando invasions and acts of rebellion to overthrow President Fidel Castro. Commando leaders say the rafter exodus shows that the Castro regime is losing its grip on the Cuban people, and that conditions may be ripe for rebellion. The New York Times Wednesday edition said Panama would allow the United States to house 10,000 Cubans for six months at U.S. military bases along the Panama Canal and Honduras would take up to 5,000 refugees. It said Panama and Honduras, which made the announcement Tuesday are the first countries to offer more than a token response to the U.S. government's efforts to persuade Caribbean countries to help provide for the flood of Cuban boat people. Cuba has picked seasoned diplomat Ricardo Alarcon, president of the National Assembly and a former foreign minister, to head its five-member delegation to the Thursday talks in New York with the United States. A Cuban government statement said Mr. Alarcon was the best qualified to deal with what it called the "delicate issue" of emigration, adding he had ample knowledge of the "fundamental causes" of the recent exodus.

Washington said that at the Thursday talks, the United States would aim at "discouraging unsafe, illegal immigration and encouraging safe, legal, orderly migration." U.S. officials indicated they aimed to nudge legal immigration by Cubans up toward an annual figure of 20,000 in a bid to halt the flow of illegal boat people. The officials insisted they would rebuff any attempt by Cuba to extend the talks, at the U.S. mission to the United Nations, beyond the subject of migration. The subject of the long-standing U.S. trade embargo against Cuba is not to be discussed. The U.S. delegation will be led by principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Michael Skol. This was a reference to the U.S. stance that the departure of thousands of rafters this month has been caused not just by what it views as unfair U.S. immigration policy toward Havana but wider issues such as the longstanding U.S. embargo against the Caribbean island. Reflecting this, a commentary in the ruling Communist Party newspaper *Granma* said the time had come "to find amidst the turbulent ocean waters the necessary political good sense and flexibility to allow Cuba to co-exist at the side of the United States without interference, pressure or aggression." On beaches east of Havana, dozens of boat people were seen Tuesday morning setting sail or putting finishing touches to their vessels. Some of the ramshackle rafts were seen returning Tuesday afternoon when the weather grew stormy. Rafters said they planned on beating any change in policy coming from the U.S.-Cuba talks. A senior U.S. official in Washington said that at the Thursday talks, the United States would aim at "discouraging unsafe, illegal immigration and encouraging safe, legal, orderly migration." U.S. officials indicated they aimed to nudge legal immigration by Cubans up toward an annual figure of 20,000 in a bid to halt the flow of illegal boat people. The officials insisted they would rebuff any attempt by Cuba to extend the talks, at the U.S. mission to the United Nations, beyond the subject of migration. The subject of the long-standing U.S. trade embargo against Cuba is not to be discussed. The U.S. delegation will be led by principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Michael Skol.



Cuban refugees are helped in boarding a U.S. Coast Guard cutter on patrol off the coast of Cuba. The number of people fleeing Cuba on rafts has increased, following a period of bad weather (AFP photo)

Support grows for Haiti invasion

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Support is growing for a U.S.-led invasion of Haiti if Haiti's military refuses to bow to international pressure and step down, with Caribbean countries and Britain pledging their backing. The new support comes at a time when the U.S. administration is refocusing its attention on the impoverished Caribbean country after two weeks in which the exodus of refugees from Cuba took up most of its attention. It parallels a U.N. decision Tuesday to abandon efforts to negotiate the departure of Haiti's military junta after the military leaders refused to meet with the envoy of U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali. In the Jamaican capital on Kingston, four Caribbean countries agreed to contribute troops to a 10,000-strong multinational force in Haiti to support a possible U.S.-led invasion to oust the military leadership in Port-au-Prince. U.S. officials, seeking to keep the pressure on the military junta in Haiti, said that training for a possible military intervention would begin immediately in Puerto Rico. "The time for action has arrived," U.S. Deputy Defence Secretary John Deutch told Caribbean foreign ministers in Kingston. "There should be no question in anybody's mind that a multinational force is going to Haiti." Jamaica, Barbados, Belize, and Trinidad and Tobago capped the two-day meeting of the 13-member Caribbean Community (Caricom) by pledging to contribute 266 troops in a non-combat role to support U.S. forces, said Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford. Two other member states — Guyana and the Bahamas — said they were considering contributing forces to a Caricom contingent. Antigua was first reported to be ready to send troops, but was later taken off the list. If Guyana and the Bahamas join the mission, Mr. Sandiford said, it would mean all Caricom members with military capabilities will be involved in the mission. At a news conference with Mr. Sandiford, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott declined to predict how long the United States would wait for Haiti's junta to leave power of their own accord. But he said, "there is a sense of increased urgency" following the refusal of Haitian military leaders to meet with U.N. envoy Rolf Knutsen and the assassination of a Roman Catholic priest close to exiled Haitian President Jean Bertrand Aristide. The U.S. delegation later left for the Dominican Republic which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti to seek more support in closing off the border, the chief entry point for U.N.-prescribed goods into Haiti. Also Tuesday, the British government said it was prepared to join a U.S.-led multinational invasion of Haiti.

Under the plan, Japan will fund various youth and cultural exchanges with Asian and other countries, engage in joint historical research on World War II, and set up an Asian historical document centre somewhere in the region. Japan formally admitted last year that its army had kidnapped teenage girls from homes and workplaces to serve as sex slaves. Many Filipino and Korean survivors, responding to earlier reports about the vocational training scheme, have said the measure would be insufficient and are pressing for direct, monetary compensation. "On the issue of wartime 'comfort women,' which seriously stained the honour and dignity of many women, I would like to take this opportunity once again to express my profound and sincere remorse and apologies," Mr. Murayama said in the statement. Justice Minister Shigetomo Nagano claimed the 1947 Nanking massacre was a figment of Chinese wartime propaganda, while Environment Minister Shin Sakurai denied Japan was an aggressor in World War II, both were subsequently forced to quit.

Japan to spend \$1 b on 'war apology' projects

TOKYO (R) — Japan announced Wednesday it was setting up a \$1 billion fund for cultural and vocational projects across Asia over the next decade as a token of apology for victims of Japanese aggression before World War II. "It is imperative for us Japanese to look squarely to our history with the peoples of neighbouring Asia and elsewhere," Prime Minister Tomichi Murayama said in a statement announcing the plan, called the "friendship and exchange initiative," includes cultural and student exchanges, joint historical research on World War II, repatriation of Koreans left behind in the Russian island of Sakhalin, and compensation for Japanese who served in the Japanese military before 1945. Regarding "comfort women," the estimated 200,000 women abducted by the Japanese army to serve as

sex slaves in battlefield brothels — Mr. Murayama said the government would help build vocational training centres for women in Asia. Mr. Murayama's plan to deal with the continued furor over Japan's wartime atrocities follows a series of law suits in recent years by victims and civic groups across Asia seeking damage and government apologies. The programme is due to start next year, the 50th anniversary of Japan's World War II surrender. The announcement also followed remarks by two cabinet ministers earlier this year which triggered protests from both Korea and China. Justice Minister Shigetomo Nagano claimed the 1947 Nanking massacre was a figment of Chinese wartime propaganda, while Environment Minister Shin Sakurai denied Japan was an aggressor in World War II, both were subsequently forced to quit.

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ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

A COLUMNIST IN *Al-Dustour* daily described media attacks on the Lebanese government for housing the displaced Palestinian refugees as ridiculous. Moving displaced Palestinians from the pavements of Beirut to humble homes by no means aims at settling them permanently in Lebanon, said Mohammad Kuwash. These Palestinians had their homes destroyed in the civil war and the government is trying to house them temporarily until a permanent solution can be found, said the writer. This move, he said, cannot be described as settling refugees in Lebanon nor can it mean that the Palestinians have lost their national identity, stressed the writer. The Lebanese have all the right to reject a solution to the refugees problem at their own expense and the Palestinians refuse to see a regional conflict settled at the expense of their loss of their own homeland, added the writer. He said that the current move to help the refugees, conducted in cooperation with UNRWA, can only be described as a humanitarian gesture towards the helpless people.

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh

I am all for professional tourism, if we feel we are up to it. But the challenge is great. We need to radically alter the looks of our touristic sites, our facilities, our services, our public behaviour, and our attitude. Can we do all of this? And can we do it well?

By John Follain
Reuter

For Mr. Delors, an ex-finance minister who joined

Signalling he might not stand, Mr. Delors said that he was not scared of retirement, that nobody had ever disposed of him, and that being a candidate could encroach on his independence.

The article is reprinted

The article is reprinted from Al Ra'i Arabic Daily.

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Weekender

Sept. 1, 1994

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Published Every Thursday

Many festivals, same artists

By Mohammad Mashariqa

The last six weeks were exceptional in Jordan's cultural life. The Kingdom witnessed four big festivals for culture and arts (Fubeis, Karak, Azraq) and the holding of the third Forum for Literature Criticism, sponsored by the Ministry of Culture. The organisers pretended to be promoting local art and culture through the inclusion of domestic items on their programmes. A battalion of 200 poets and writers, the majority of them residing in Amman, were officially invited and expected to give their contributions at all these festivals.

The festival's administrators put a great deal of emphasis on highlighting the local cultural movement. The shortage of proper domestic culture however was evident. The organisers blame writers and artists who either did not show up at all or turned down the invitations. Those who turned up, however, were forced to repeat themselves. Others were disappointed with the over all attitude of the festival's administrators. Some say that their concern did not go further than announcing the artists' names in the newspapers. Writers and poets who accepted the challenge complain that the arrangements agreed

with the organisers to put on a proper show were not taken seriously which in turn affected the quality of their presentations.

The festivals and the forum were successful as far as projecting a positive cultural role, but they lacked better coordination and organisation. In order to provide enough time for all participants to make constructive and creative preparations, either these occasions should take place in different times of the year or the artists' participation should be defined according to their readiness to offer the audience new and genuine art work.

AMMAN CULTURAL PULSE

The other change to be introduced is the way organisers deal with the concept of the regional festivals. Their ambition to have a big cultural event in small towns clashes with the festival's objectives of presenting domestic experiments in the fields of art, folklore, history, archaeology and research to be done in exploring cultural symbols.

If we take Azraq as an example, which genuinely blends Druze, bedouin and peasant subcultures, their is no doubt that such a festival has a great potential

for cultural and touristic exploitation. The same applies to Fubeis and Karak, which are unique cultural treasures because of their historical and ethnic particularities.

In spite of these facts, the festivals' sponsors put a great deal of emphasis on famous Arab stars, giving them priority in terms of propaganda, accommodation and recognition, while the local artists were left at the bottom of their agendas. The reasons behind this lay in the financial profit such shows are capable of producing. The second Fubeis Festival, for example, was this year a parade for Iraqi artists in different art fields and the slogans about the festival being an input in enriching Jordanian culture remained only sentences without meaning. While promotion of Najwa Karam's concert brought 13,000 visitors into a small town with unprepared infrastructure for hosting such a high number, the poorly propagated recitals of the local artists, some of them internationally known, were attended only by family members and friends.

The same attitude dominated the Karak Festival. If seems organisers assume that the increase in the quantity of cultural activities, regardless of their content, should improve the quality at future festivals. But it could also be that their intentions, in the

first place, is to make profit.

Whatever their motives are the time has come for evaluating their work and looking into people's expectations of the festivals.

In order to secure conditions for local growth and open doors for international recognition, there should be a distribution of activity among the festivals. While the Jerash Festival should maintain its international level, the town festivals should assume a local role. The local festivals should be part of a wider tourism policy mobilising local creative work. The Jerash Festival could select the best domestic art achievements and promote them internationally. In order to play such a role, the Jerash Festival should grow into a big institution with a network of communities to be assigned the task of identifying the art movement not only on Arab and international levels, but also at home. In this sense, special attention should be given to the local participants at the Jerash Festival. Their art work should be selected for the quality and content. All local participants should reflect the Jordanian cultural image internationally. It is a big responsibility. From now on it is our foremost duty to cater for and breed the local art movement with deeper concern and higher consciousness.

People who exercise 'burn more fat even if they overeat'

By Paul Raeburn

TORONTO — People who exercise then reach for more snacks might not lose weight, but they will alter their body chemistry in a way that burns up more fat, a researcher reports.

Dr. Jorge Calles, an endocrinologist at the University of Vermont, offered what he called the first carefully controlled study to show that fat

burning increases significantly with exercise, even if people eat too much.

People get their energy by burning a combination of fat and carbohydrates, Dr. Calles said. In people who are naturally lean, the ratio of fat burned to carbohydrates burned is higher than in people who are overweight.

Dr. Calles found that exercise shifts that ratio so people get a higher percentage of their energy

from burning fat.

He reported his findings at the seventh international congress on obesity.

Dr. Calles said the study supports the idea that exercising can help people lose weight. That might seem obvious, but it has been the subject of debate among obesity specialists, he said.

"There's no question about the cardiovascular benefits, and no question exercise is helpful for people with diabetes," Dr. Calles said. "But for treatment of obesity, there is a debate."

"We are beginning to show that indeed exercise can be beneficial," Dr. Richard Atkinson, an obesity specialist at the University of Wisconsin, said that individual variations in fat burning help explain why some people seem to be able to eat a lot without gaining weight, while others put on weight

much more easily.

Dr. Calles' study involved 20 people. Some were overfed 1,000 calories per day and were not allowed to exercise, while others were overfed and assigned to do just enough exercise to burn up the extra 1,000 calories.

In those who were overfed without exercise, the amount of fat burned dropped from the equivalent of 518 calories per day to 97 calories per day. The

burning of carbohydrates rose.

In those who were overfed and who exercised, fat burning rose from the equivalent of 406 calories per day to 685, while the burning of carbohydrates fell.

In a separate study, John Blundell and colleagues at the University of Leeds in England found that exercise can lead to appetite suppression and weight loss. But they also

found that people who exercise have to watch the fat content of their diets, because high-fat foods can overwhelm the beneficial effects of exercise.

Subjects were offered a choice of either high-fat foods or high-carbohydrate foods after exercising. In an encouraging sign, researchers found that the subjects had no special preference for high-fat foods after working out.

Dr. Calles acknowledged that the numbers of people in his study were small, but said it is difficult to do large studies when people must be kept in a clinic for days at a time to monitor their diets and their physical activity.

The studies so far have been done on people with normal weights, he said. He is now planning similar studies with obese subjects, to see if they react differently to exercise.

he past

way in which they will be invested and utilised for the benefit of all. We should remember that Jordan was a recipient of huge funds over the past years, which unfortunately turned into an economic burden.

Only when the people feel that investments and funds are aimed at ensuring prosperity for the public in general can plans achieve success. We should remember the recent experiments and the 1988 events and take a lesson from the past experiences. Our country will be successful only if priorities for investment and development are carefully chosen to meet national requirements. The success of projects can be best measured through results and ability to solve part of our economic difficulties, like unemployment and external indebtedness.

It is on these points that efforts by His Majesty King Hussein together with those of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan are being exerted. They are careful to deal with any eventualities and save the country from any problems and hardships similar to those of the past. It is for this reason that the leadership in the country is keen on enhancing firm control at all stages, putting an end to corruption and excesses or abuse of authority. It is keen to employ a group of loyal and qualified people so that to utilise the peace era for the best benefit of the country.

Finally, peace with Israel does not mean we should rest assured of safety. Israel is still a foe that fought us over tens of years and still seeks to abort our ambitions. Israel's policies contradict the elements of peace and all we hope to attain is to secure safety from aggression.

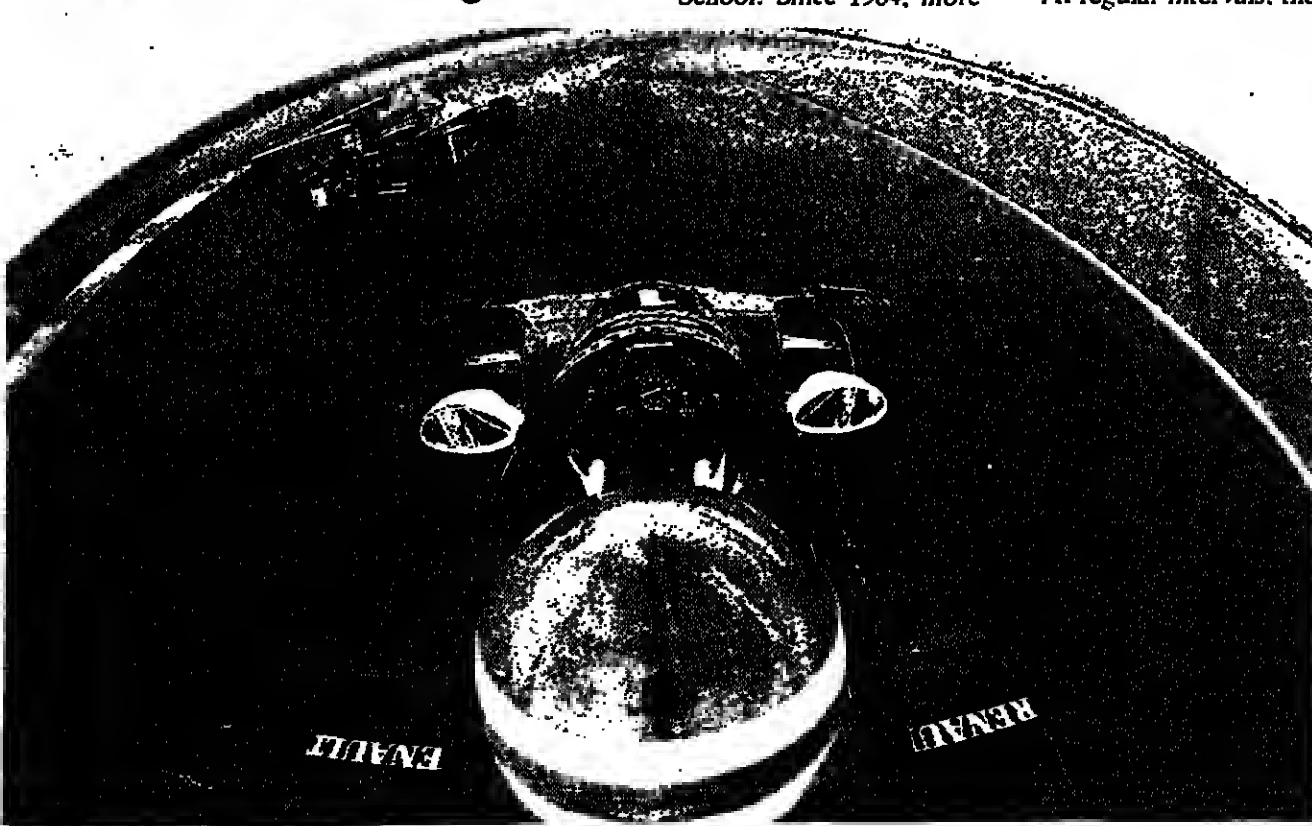
At the same time, dealing with Israel should by no means serve as a justification for severing our ties with our Arab brothers. We continue to need Arab backing for the future and should realise that Israel is not an alternative to inter-Arab relations, but rather a new gate to pass through with great care to achieve our goals and protect our interests.

As to cultural or intellectual invasions, they do exist with or without peace. But it all depends on us and on our actions in the course of insulating ourselves against danger.

We should look at peace as creating new opportunities for us but that should never prevent us from seeking cooperation with our Arab brothers and attain our common Arab aspirations.

Dreaming of being a Formula 1 racing-driver, you veer left and then right and perform heel and toe manoeuvres. But you do not need to practise on your own car any more. The Winfield School, which is the best of its kind, enables you to make your dream come true and to become a Formula 1 racing driver.

By Philippe Joubin



Some of the top students of Winfield School become Formula 1 drivers

PARIS — In the classroom, you could hear the flies. A dozen young people literally drank in the words of their instructor. The lesson was about the study of trajectories. It was theory which was later to be followed by practical training in a Renault Formula-type of single-seater racing car.

Car racing no longer holds any secrets for the instructors at the Winfield School. Since 1964, more

than twenty-six Formula 1 racing-drivers have learnt their profession there. They include famous seniors such as François Cevert, René Arnoux, Patrick Tambay and Didier Pironi and more recent ones such as Alain Prost and Jean Alesi. All of them attended either Magny-Cours, or the Paul Ricard Circuit, which are the two centres for the French Formula 1 school.

At regular intervals, the

trainee racing-drivers return to the classroom to learn the theory of steering and heel-and-toe techniques, which form the basis of a racing-driver's profession. After that, they train on the circuit, doing a few laps on a 16 valve Renault Clio, together with an instructor. Then comes the long-awaited moment. Patiently, each student gets into a single-seater. They check the position of their hands on the wheel, examine the controls, receive the last recommendations from their instructors and they are off, with the four-cylinder engine roaring behind their backs. There is no lack of thrills. Slowly, the car swings out from the straight line of the stands and enters the circuit. They get their first feelings, their first contact and their first sweat. Their dream gradually comes true.

One by one, the students climb into the seats and make a series of twelve laps, gradually going faster and faster. From the edge of the track, two instructors watch them and dissect the behaviour of each of them before holding an in-depth de-briefing to explain the mistakes to avoid and the way to improve the qualities that they display at the wheel. At the end of the training ses-

sion, once the twelve series of twelve laps have been completed, as well as the lessons on theory, each student is ready to take part in the selection for the semi-finals of the "Volant Elf", which offers them the chance of a career with Elf.

Dreams come true

About twenty semi-finalists are thus selected from among the best students of the year. Once again, each of them does a series of twelve laps and only the five fastest are chosen for the final. It is a great moment and one which sometimes determines their careers and their lives.

However, not all of the most talented racing-drivers who qualified from the Winfield School won the "Volant Elf". Jacques Laffitte, for instance, who, throughout his exemplary career in F1, wore the logo of the school that was so dear to him, on his green crash-helmet, did not manage to win it. Neither did Jean Alesi or Damon Hill. But that did not and will not prevent these racing-drivers from having a fine top-level career.

The day of the final dawn. The five young people look defiantly at one another. They are extremely stressed. Patiently, they go over what they



French driver Alain Prost has learnt his profession at Winfield School

have learnt here. They walk round their cars, with a serious smile and a far-away look. After several series of laps, beneath the attentive gaze of a jury consisting of actual racing-drivers, team-leaders, journalists and time-keepers from the International Automobile Sport Federation, one of them will win a complete season in the Renault Formula French championships. It is the first

step on a career with Elf, which enabled so many young people to be able to drive a Formula 1 racing-car later on. Every year, two such awards are thus made, one for each circuit.

They patiently learn their profession at the Winfield School so that, one day, they may start out on a brilliant career and on the road to fame — L'Actualite En France.

Portugal's giants lure crowds in 'queen of festivals'

By Helena Pozniak

REUTER
VIANA DO CASTELO. Portugal — Burly and sweating, the young man dons a flowery frock and a giant woman's mask to strut about the streets as a mock bride looking for a husband.

The costume weighs 55 kilograms (120 pounds), says 22-year-old Pedro, before hoisting the garish papier mache head onto his shoulders to become a colourful four-metre (13 feet) giant dancing his way through Portugal's "queen of festivals".

For Pedro and other

days of boisterous dancing, brass band processions and religious services in Viana Do Castelo offer a quaint glimpse of days gone by in this old fishing port in northern Portugal.

Many dress in colourful traditional costumes and perform folk dances to the music of bagpipes and drums.

The annual celebrations in honour of the local religious patron, the Virgin of Agony, are repeated on a more modest scale in scores of towns and villages across Portugal.

returning emigrants through to Viana Do Castelo every August for a dazzling display of folklore that has made this one "the queen of festivals".

Pedro's dance mocks one of the festival traditions, a parade by young girls dressed up as brides in all their finery to advertise themselves to potential husbands.

Girls clad in black beaded bridal dresses and heavy gold chains, holding candles as symbols of their purity, still march in a procession through Viana Do Castelo every year, but they are no longer on the lookout for a suitor.

The gold chains originally represented the girl's potential dowry, but today they are family heirlooms lent for what has simply become a fancy dress parade.

Alexandra, a 14-year-old wearing her grandmother's wedding dress, admits that she is not really trying to lure a groom. "Not yet anyway," she smiles.

While the girls are still happy to dress up as brides, the festival organisers say they have problems in attracting teenage boys to dress as angels for another of the traditional parades.

"Boys are already thinking of other things," said Amadeu Costa, 74, who was organising the festival for the 20th time this year.

"Viana's festivities are the greatest in Portugal," he says, echoing a boast of many older people in the town.

"In the old days people loved to meet and go to the fairs — there weren't many opportunities for entertainment then," said one 71-year-old shopkeeper, remembering the hordes of people who used to flood into Viana Do Castelo's festival from the surrounding countryside.

The festival began as a purely religious ceremony in the 17th century, when local fishermen would pray for a safe year afloat. The image of "Our Lady of Agony" is taken out to sea to bless the water every year.

The event grew into a colourful popular festival after it was granted the status of a fair in 1772 and traders were allowed to set up stalls.

"This was the start of the festival as we know it," Mr. Costa said.

Although Viana Do Castelo's importance as a fishing port has declined sharply in recent years,

Mr. Costa scrupulously observes more than two centuries of tradition and insists that the festival retain its original link with the sea-faring community. "Most of Viana's fishing boats have been sunk or been left to rot now — but many, especially the older people, haven't forgotten what the 'festas' mean," he said.

Religious faith features heavily in staunchly Roman Catholic northern Portugal, where people sprinkle holy water on rosaries in cars to protect themselves from fatal accidents and a special mass is held to launch new fishing boats.

Retired fishermen raise their eyes heavenwards at the mention of "Our Lady" and women trail barefoot behind her image as it is carried in procession. This is a form of penance to give thanks for prayers granted.

In the old fishing quarter people work through the night to carpet the streets with petals, creating a floral walkway for the statue's procession. "She is our protector — the most important thing you can have when you are out at sea," said 67-year-old Manuel Castro Cunha, who was a fisherman for 55 years.

The article is reprinted from Al Ra'i Arabic Daily

Have all the viruses gone?

By Jean-Claude Elias

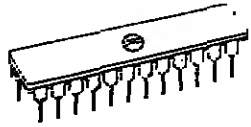
A strange disease began affecting computers' operation in the years 1990 and 1991. Smart but unscrupulous programmers got the idea of inserting "programming errors" in their work. Such intentional "errors" were designed in a way that they would automatically copy themselves onto other disks and systems. They would therefore spread like a contagious disease. People named them, quite logically, viruses.

The damage a computer virus does to a system tremendously varies from simple files erasure to complete blocking of the operation of a machine. The nastiest forms can be dormant on the unit's hard disk, and become active only weeks, months later. Some viruses can make the whole PC (personal computer) behave in such an erratic way that it could take a few days before the user realises he was hit by a virus and calls for professional help.

In 1992 and 1993, viruses caused extensive damage to computer systems worldwide. Mainly to PCs, because disks inter-copying is a very common practice in the field of personal computing. As it could be expected, anti-virus software was then designed with the aim to first detect viruses and second to clean the disks from them. Advanced virus scanners — as the programmes for virus protection are called — have utilities that would guard PCs from the disease and detect it before it even starts infecting the system.

Surprisingly enough, this year has seen much less virus attacks. Although the number of known virus pattern now exceeds an awesome 2000, scanner programmes seem to have become very effective in protecting the systems. Some hardware manufacturers even include a built-in electronic circuit that is supposed to break any infection attempt. Even if such a device cannot be an absolute shield, it

chip talk



certainly helps increase the protection level.

It could also be that software criminals, who have nothing to gain materially from creating viruses, are tired of their little game. Their act was like a stimulating, exciting challenge at the beginning. They wanted to prove to themselves that they could do it. They may not see any point in proceeding further now. They may also have been taught a lesson by being hit themselves by others' viruses.

Perhaps the main reason behind the decrease in the number of virus attacks is the user's high level of awareness and caution. Practically all PC users now use excellent scanner software. Even the non-professionals have heard of viruses and usually ask their computer supplier, a friend or any specialist to advise them on the best protection methods and software.

The chain reaction may just have been broken. Without being over optimistic — there are still some viruses around — we can say that the threat has fallen well below the panic level. It is a typical case where awareness has defeated the disease. Would it be relevant to draw a comparison with other "real" diseases? Could this serve as an example? Only doctors could tell.

Cracks could send Dracula castle tumbling down

By Roxana Dascau
Reuter

BRAN, Romania — Count Dracula's legendary Transylvanian castle is cracking up.

Engineers have found several fissures in the rock foundation of the 14th century fortress and warn it could collapse unless sufficient cash is found for repairs.

Bran Castle, set amid picturesque but earthquake-prone mountain slopes 200 kilometres north of Bucharest, is at risk from a major tremor, they say. But state funds for emergency consolidation works have run dry.

The building earned its reputation as a house of horrors from old stories about the mediaeval Prince Vlad Tepes — known as Vlad The Impaler — the role model for 19th century Irish novelist Bram Stoker's Count Dracula.

In the dark ages, Vlad earned a blood-curdling reputation for impaling his unlucky foes on sharp-ended spikes.

The road leading to the castle is still called "the road of spikes" in local jargon — as a memento to the prince's habit of impaling criminals on the roadside to discourage thieving.

Whilst there are no bats fluttering around creaking coffins or fanged fiends lurking in dark corners, Bran Castle does boast one or two creepy features to help tourists' imaginations along.

Standing aloof on a rock jutting out of the surrounding dark woods, the spires on its main towers pierce the sky with a sinister air. A sonorous chime on one of the towers is activated whenever a storm approaches.

And one of the main attractions in its 56 rooms is a huge, intricately-decorated four-poster bed — with adjacent crucifix.

Thousands of tourists drawn by the Dracula legend and the beauty of the surroundings regularly flock to the castle gates, to visit the premises and an open air village museum on the castle grounds.

Chances of finding the repair money lie more with them than the cash-strapped government, many believe.

The cost of mending the cracks is estimated at some \$272,000 — a small bite for Dracula, but more than Romania can apparently afford.

A small chapel in the inner yard of the castle contains the grave of Prince Mircea, youngest son of Romania's former Queen Marie, to whom the castle passed after World War I.

A headstone which fell from the grave has still not been replaced after two years.

The slab was taken away for repairs, and it has not been returned since, curators say. "You see, there is little money for repairs," one added.

Queen Marie had the Castle interiors redecorated and modernised and she used it as a summer residence.

But its fortunes waned after World War II when Moscow-backed Communists seized power in Romania and abolished the monarchy in 1947.

Abandoned and laid waste after the war, it became a museum in the late 1950s. It was closed seven years ago for repairs and reopened to the public last year.

"In the end, it seems that Dracula holds the key to our problems," one woman said, as she watched rows of Japanese, Arab and Western holidaymakers climbing the steep mountain slope to the castle.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

HOWLERS

★ Angler: A man who spends rainy days sitting on the muddy banks of rivers doing nothing because his wife won't let him do it at home.

★★★★★

★ Hero: A man who is famous today and will bore us tomorrow.

★★★★★

★ Doctors: The best doctors in the world are: Doctor Diet, Doctor Quiet and Doctor Merriman.

★★★★★

★ Bachelor: A man who enjoys the chase and does not eat the game.

★★★★★

★ Husband: A man who is what is left of the lover after the nerve has been extracted.

★★★★★

LET'S CHAT IN ARABIC

— Despise your purse, but consider your person.
Aheen fiksak wala taheen nafsak.

— God never expects you to do more than you can.
La yokaalifol'lahu nafsak illa woss'aha.

— I'm proud and you proud, who shall carry the dirt out? Ana amir wa'anta amir, faman yassookul hamir?

— Ill-gotten property never lasts.
Malul haram la yadoom.

— It is a blessing to keep moving. Fil baraka baraka.

— When the cat is away, mice will play.
Eza ghab el-kat, il'ab ya far.

— Turn away from evil's way, and let it pass.
Zb'id anish'shar wa ganniluh.

— Laugh and the world would laugh with you.
Id'hak tad'hak lakad'donin

★★★★★

TIME FOR FUN

★ A stupid man got into a restaurant and ordered a dish of macaroni which he has never tasted before. On seeing them, he thought they were small snakes grilled in an oven. As soon as he started eating, one of them fell down on his clothes. Feeling scared, he called the owner of the restaurant saying: Help me, sir, there's one here which is still alive!

★★★★★

★ After the departure of the train, the station master saw a man bursting with laughter.
"What are you laughing at, sir?" said the master to the man.

"Strange is this world. He invited me to his home and then came to see me off at the station. He took the train and left me here alone!"

★★★★★

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

1. What is the Fourth Estate?

2. What was the Pyramid of the Sun?

3. Who were the Macaronis?

4. What is the largest railway station in the world?

5. What does the phrase "a hundred grand" mean?

★★★★★

YOUR CHARACTER IN FOCUS

(Born on 6th June)

— Has strong magnetism and is very attractive to the opposite sex.

— Dislikes any form of restraint and has a great desire for independence.

— His ambition is to rise above his friends.

— A pleasant personality to meet and is always charming to be with.

— His talk is interesting and lively.

— Fond of music, dancing and poetry.

— Loves a life full of ease and luxuries, money and happiness.

— Prefers spending to saving.

— Considerate and optimistic.

— Emotional but keeps his emotions to himself.

— His anger doesn't easily subside.

— Very responsible and loves his children, but receives little happiness from them.

— A good conversationalist and enjoys intellectual combats.

— Sharp, brilliant, quick and sensitive.

★★★★★

PUZZLES

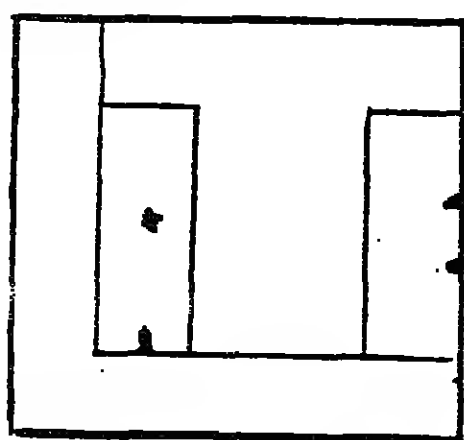
(A) What everyday word in the English language is most often pronounced incorrectly.

★★★★★

(B) Which of these three cities is nearest to the equator? And which is farthest?

EDINBURGH, Scotland; GLASGOW, Scotland; MOSCOW, Russia.

(C) HIDDEN WORD:
Can you make out a four-letter word hidden in this strange figure?



JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Sept. 1

8:30 The Heart of Courage

9:10 Murder She Wrote

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week

Friday, Sept. 2

8:30 Sixty Minutes

9:00 E.N.G.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Emilie

Saturday, Sept. 3

7:30 Dimensions

Eating Plants

How do eating plants devour flies... and how they defend themselves.

8:30 Movies, Videos And Games

The latest in video and computer games, as well as the latest best selling movies, like: Backbeat, Four Weddings, and a Funeral and Cool Running.

9:00 One To One

9:30 The Campbells

A Time For Goodbyes

Will Dr. James accept an excellent offer to work in Toronto?

10:00 News In English

10:20 Feature Film — Happy New Year

Starring: Peter Falk, Charles Dunning

A comedy about two outlandish crooks who are out to rob a jewelry store... but one false step will buy a one-way ticket to jail!

Sunday, Sept. 4

7:30 F.B.I. — Untold Stories

Revealing stories of real happenings, re-enacted on the silver screen.

8:30 Step By Step

Dina thinks she is actually free to go to a Chicago University... little does she know that Kodie is at her heels.

9:10 Quantum Leap

A Little Miracle

Sam goes back in time to 1962. His job is to serve at a mansion owned by a rich man, known for his selfishness and aggressive behaviour.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Snowy River

Kathleen and Luke are both out looking for something — and both find love.

Monday, Sept. 5

7:30 Black Beauty

Horse Thief

Bella is accused of stealing the horse. Beauty, but one person comes forward to help reveal the truth.

8:30 Home Free

Vanessa fails her exams but still manages to hold a party at home.

9:10 Galactic Odyssey

A Chat With ET

Any signals from outer space indicating life on other planets? A question put to scientists to find an answer.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Matrix

Masked Man

Steve's mission is to save an old man from an imminent death.

Tuesday, Sept. 6

7:30 Innovation

How to combat lead poisoning — that gets to people through dust and certain kinds of paints.

8:10 Hollywood Stuntmakers

Best shots from movies where stuntmen perform some of the most dangerous and risky acts.

9:30 The Commish

The Hatchet

The commissioner fight against cutting down his department's budget, as saving people's lives is certainly much more important than figures on paper.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Come In Spinner

In Sydney, Australia, during World War II, we follow the lives of three women... who seek company.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

7:30 P.M. Magazine

8:30 Bob

Bob happens to hear unfavourable criticism of his work... from the room next door.

9:10 The Nature Of Things

Cardiac diseases, and how the high degree in blood cholesterol adversely affects the heart.

10:00 News In English

10:20 The Nanny

Fannie's Choice

Would the nanny go through her plans to get married and leave her job with the Shefields?

10:50 Poldark

Dracula lown

rain attractions in its 56 rooms is a decorated four-poster bed — with curtains drawn by the Dracula legend he surrounds regularly flock to visit the premises and an open air the castle grounds.

ing the repair money lie more with the strapped government, many

ending the cracks is estimated at small bite for Dracula, but more apparently afford.

in the inner yard of the castle of Prince Mircea, youngest son of Queen Marie, to whom the castle War I.

th fell from the grave has still not two years.

n away for repairs, and it has not curators say. "You see, there is pairs," one added.

the Castle interiors redecorated and she used it as a summer

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Jamie Lee Curtis — slinky, or rather, gummy

By Douglas J. Rowe
The Associated Press
NEW YORK — In the black minidress she's wearing, Jamie Lee Curtis comes across as slinky. She's wiry, rubbery.

More and more, the erstwhile "scream queen" who first gained attention with 1978's Halloween warms to being a physical, comic actress.

"I like being a clown. And I think a clown really is a nice way to put it, because of its mixed message that you get: A clown doesn't take itself too seriously — it can make you cry and it can make you laugh. And that's what a good clown can do," said the 35-year-old Curtis, who co-stars with Arnold Schwarzenegger in the action-adventure

movie True Lies.

"I really look at my job as being just a female, paid movie clown," she said. "It means I can use my whole body. I'm most proud of my body work in this movie — not my physical shape, but my body language."

Curtis credited comedy actor John Ritter with offering good advice.

"I remember John coming up to me and saying, 'no matter what, just remember: You have very funny feet,'" she said, demonstrating by fending off an imaginary amorous suitor with her legs and feet.

Director Terry Gilliam also urged her to concentrate on comedy, saying: "Why don't you stop trying so hard to be a 'good actress' and do what you're good at?"

"It was a great gift he gave me, because what he was saying is, 'you're funny. You're a light, funny woman.'"

Her range of performances is wide, encompassing her early horror films, sexy roles in Trading Places and Perfect and a tough cop in Blue Steel, as well as softer parts in Dominick and Eugene and My Girl.

Still, she's taking Gilliam and Ritter's advice on comedy seriously.

"Now, I'm really aware of how you can be so duplicitous, or 'triple-tious,' if that's a word. You can be using so many things with each other. So you can be saying something, your foot can be

doing something else, your hand can be doing something else" — all conveying something different, even contradictory, she said.

As Helen Tasker, the frumpy legal secretary married to a superspy who she thinks is a boring computer salesman, Curtis displays her ability to be a demosthenes of body language.

She metamorphoses from mousy to macho after almost dallying in an extramarital affair and then getting involved in her husband's real business — stopping terrorists.

Once Helen has thrown off the shackles of a bored wife, she performs a striptease dance that's a fun synthesis of silliness and sexiness, leaving True

Lies fans abuzz.

Despite her success, Curtis said it's unnatural for her to talk about the craft of acting because she thinks of her abilities as "instinctive" (possibly that's by dint of having actress Janet Leigh and actor Tony Curtis as parents).

"I'm not a particularly intelligent human being. And beyond what my instincts tell me about something, I'm not particularly learned," Curtis said early in the conversation.

Later, she returned to that notion, talking about how she thinks of her life as a hallway with checkpoints.

"It's not like I went to Juilliard and can do a French West Indies accent, as well as a Tibetan

accent as well as tap dance as well as do Shakespeare," she said.

Consequently, she describes herself as having "a very delicate confidence" and feeling anxious about the future, which beckons with a sequel to A Fish Called Wanda.

"I am one of those people who likes to know the end of books before I read them," she said. "OK, she's dead, he's not, she's divorced, he's got a baby. OK," she said.

Only then, she said, can she start with page one. "I don't like suspense. Don't like surprises at all. Never, ever throw me a surprise party. ... I would probably get angry. I don't like to be surprised. It scares me."



Jamie Lee Curtis

Autumn movies loaded with dramas

By Bob Thomas
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Can Hollywood get serious and still score a record year at the box office? That's the issue facing the studios as they prepare for a fall season inordinately filled with dramas.



Tom Cruise stars in the movie Interview With The Vampire

The flood of serious-minded movies partly is motivated by the film companies' strategy of slotting their Academy Award hopefuls toward the end of the year. The reasoning is that movies released late will be fresh in the voters' minds.

However, no one ever forgets an excellent movie screened earlier in the year: such as, Oscar winner The Silence Of The Lambs, which opened in February. The companies also have shown an increasing reluctance to send dramas into the summer marketplace. That's when out-of-schoolers and vacationers seek more mindless entertainment, mainly high-speed action and over-the-top comedy.

John Krier, whose Exhibitor Relations Co. tracks box-office performance, believes a new record is doubtful.

"The current total is about \$1.9 billion, which is 1 or 2 per cent ahead of last year's record, which finished at \$5.2 billion," he observes.

"But in looking over the fall product, I see no potential Fatal Attraction, Crocodile Dundee or Stand By Me — pictures that have 'legs.' Unless something surprising pops up, it's going to be a hard autumn — a lot of tough sells and too many formula pictures out there."

Here's a sampler of what ticket buyers can expect during the autumn season:

DRAMA

- Nobody's Fool — Paul Newman returns to a family he left behind. With Jessica Tandy and Melanie Griffith. Opening sometime in October.
- The Perez Family — Marisa Tomei and Anjelica Huston in a story of Cuban refugees. Nov. 11.
- Pontiac Moon — Ted Danson is an eccentric teacher and Mary Steenburgen his reclusive wife in a story that parallels the 1969 moon landing. Oct. 21.
- A Simple Twist Of Fate — Steve Martin stars in his own script about a man who struggles to keep his adopted daughter. Sept. 2.
- Quiz Show — Robert Redford returns to directing with a comedy-drama about the 1950s TV quiz show scandals. Sept. 16.
- Ed Wood — Tim Burton essays the strange life of the maker of Schlocky movies. Johnny Depp stars. Oct. 7.

— The Shawshank Redemption — murderer Tim Robbins befriends another lifer, Morgan Freeman, in a New England prison. Sept. 23.

— Interview With The Vampire — vampire Tom Cruise gives an interview to Christian Slater telling of his 200-year travails. Nov. 18.

— Love Affair — Warren Beatty, Annette Bening and Katharine Hepburn update the twice-filmed tearjerker canonized in Sleepless In Seattle. (The second version was retitled An Affair To Remember.) Oct. 14.

— Second Best — William Hurt as a single man in a Welsh village who adopts a disturbed boy. Sept. 30.

— The War — Kevin Costner plays a supporting role in a southern story about a boy (Elijah Wood) and a treehouse. Nov. 11.

— Mrs. Parker And The Vicious Circle — Jennifer Jason Leigh as Dorothy Parker with an ensemble cast as 1920s New York literati. Nov. 23.

— Miracle On 34th Street — Richard Attenborough as Santa Claus in a remake of the holiday classic. Nov. 23.

— Blue Sky — Jessica Lange and the omnipresent Tommy Lee Jones as a lascivious wife and a dedicated nuclear engineer. Sept. 16.

ACTION/ADVENTURE

— Terminal Velocity — Skydiver Charlie Sheen becomes involved in international intrigue when a student, Nastassja Kinski, turns out to be a KGB agent. Sept. 23.

— Star Trek: Generations — Capt. Kirk (William Shatner) joins Patrick Stewart and his "next generation" crew. Sept. 18.

— Rapa Nui — Jason Scott Lee as a tribal leader in the 17th-century turmoil on Easter Island. Sept. 9.

— Silent Fall — Child psychologist Richard Dreyfuss tries to solve a double murder. Oct. 28.

— The Specialist — Sylvester Stallone as an explosives expert dodging danger in Miami. With Sharon Stone, James Woods and Eric Roberts. Oct. 7.

— Trial By Jury — Joanne Whalley-Kilmer plays a juror threatened in the New York trial of a crime boss. Also with William Hurt and Armand Assante. Sept. 9.

— Time Cop — Jean-Claude Van Damme in the next century battles a new brand of criminal: Manipulators of time travel. Sept. 16.

— The River Wild — Meryl Streep in an action picture; she and husband David Strathairn take a rafting trip in an effort to save their marriage. Sept. 30.

— A Good Man In Africa — Colin Friels and Sean Connery in a mixture of politics and adventure, directed by Bruce Beresford (Driving Miss Daisy). Sept. 9.

— Pulp Fiction — Three stories by Quentin Tarantino inspired by lurid crime fiction. Includes John Travolta, Bruce Willis, Eric Stoltz, Uma Thurman and Christopher Walken. Oct. 7.

— Mary Shelley's Frankenstein — He's back, this time with Robert De Niro in the platform shoes and Kenneth Branagh as the doctor and director. Nov. 4.

— Stargate — Kurt Russell, James Spader and Jaye Davidson (The Crying Game) bunt mysteries in the Egyptian desert. Oct. 28.

COMEDY

— The Road To Wellville — Anthony Hopkins as turn-of-the-century health guru Harvey Kellogg, co-starring Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick, John Cusack and Dana Carvey. Oct. 21.

— Junior — Former Twins Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito reunite in a fantasy about an odd kind of pregnancy. With Emma Thompson and Frank Langella. Nov. 23.

— The Scout — Failing baseball scout Albert Brooks discovers a hot but eccentric prospect, Brendan Fraser. Sept. 30.

— Welcome To Paradise — Nicolas Cage and two brothers come to a small town from New York to pull off a big heist, but the natives charm them. Sometime in October.

— Speechless — Michael Keaton and Geena Davis fall in love although they write speeches for opposing candidates. Sound Familiar? Dec. 16.

CHILDREN

— A Troll In Central Park — Don Bluth's seventh animated film takes another shot at the Disney monopoly. Oct. 7.

For many, Russian beauty revolution is not even skin deep

By Sebastian Smith
Agence France Presse

MOSCOW — Russian women are discovering themselves and the Western fashion industry is discovering them, but low pay and unemployment keep the glamour "revolution" beyond the means of most women.

As post-Soviet women undo their beehives, shake off the babushka look, and head for the swanky beauty salons and haute-couture shops, they are also asserting independence and women's

rights, fashion industry representatives said.

"There's a future because the Russian woman travels now, she knows what's going on in the world, she learns," said Jean-Noel Lemond, the 26-year-old artistic manager at the recently opened Jacques Dessange Beauty Salon in Moscow.

But the glittering world of Versace and Christian Dior in the capital's shops has nothing to do with the lives of most modern Russian women, said Tatiana Leontieva, a Moscow-

based academic and president of the "Women for Conversion" Foundation.

In the last three years women have been particularly vulnerable to rapid growth in unemployment, alcoholism and crime, Ms. Leontieva said.

Prostitution rings run by organized crime gangs are often ignored by corrupt or lax police forces, she said.

In urban areas, 80 per cent of the regularly unemployed are women, while mental illnesses and suicide are on the rise, she said.

Men's alcoholism has always been a "serious problem for Russian women and now about 70 per cent of the rapidly growing violence against women is caused by their drunken partners or relatives," she said.

At the Jacques Dessange salon the prognosis is more bullish.

Haircuts range from \$44 to \$110, about the average Russian monthly salary. For about \$200, technicians will clip, massage, cleanse, vibrate and tan a body from head to toe.

Some 50 coatmakers come in daily, Ms. Lemond said.

"Every woman decides what's important to her. One decides she needs good food, another good furniture," said Ellena Chynsova, 30, who had come to have her hair cut by Ms. Lemond.

Was the haircut important to her? "Absolutely," Ms. Chynsova replied.

The salon opened in June and Jacques Dessange is planning a second in Moscow next year, followed by one Saint Petersburg, Ms. Lemond

said.

Annemarie Van Gall, director of the publisher of the Russian edition of Cosmopolitan, also believes that Russian women are leaving their dowdy past behind.

The success of the magazine, whose articles on sex and power are a far cry from the Soviet-era monthlies such as Woman Peasant and Woman Worker, shows that more than an elite is joining the Russian beauty revolution, she said.

Circulation of the first

issue was 60,000 and it is expected to almost double by the third issue due at the end of August, she said.

"It shows that Russia is definitely changing. ... No one has ever spoken to them in that language before — that you stand up for your life. You love to be beautiful, but you do it for yourself," Ms. Ivan Gaal said.

One of the many beefy, weather-hardened women doing manual labour in Moscow's streets and parks said she had no

hope of being able to spend time and money on beauty.

"That will never happen," said the worker, sweeping under a giant statue of Lenin's wife Nadejda Krupskaya, portrayed as a heroic, Soviet woman.

"We learned that communism, then socialism would bring everything good. But neither socialism, communism, nor democracy have made things easy," said the woman, who looked far older than her 37 years.

California pageant brings paintings to life

By Leslie Adler
Reuter

LAGUNA BEACH, California — The curtain rises. The lights brighten, revealing a life-size poster of Charlie Chaplin as the Little Tramp. A narrator pays tribute to the golden age of silent movies. The music swells. And Charlie Chaplin jumps off the poster and onto the stage.

It is the pageant of the Masters, a 66-year-old presentation of tableaux vivants — a centuries-old art form that literally means living pictures.

California seaside town, combines a voice-over narration, a live symphony, live actors and exquisitely reproduced artistic backdrops to re-create works of art, including paintings, posters and sculpture.

"What's unusual about the pageant is that it sort of defies categorisation," said Glen Eytchison, the director for the last 15 years.

"It doesn't really want to be just theatre. It doesn't want to be just a symphony concert. It doesn't want to be tableaux vivants either," he said.

The pageant started in 1932 as a sideshow to an art festival. Since then it

has evolved from sideshow to the main event, becoming increasingly sophisticated — with a level of artistic, theatrical and technical achievement that draws visitors from all over the world.

In addition, the pageant creators have honed their use of stage lighting in order to make its re-created paintings look absolutely two-dimensional — despite its use of live models.

Tableaux vivants date back more than 1,000 years to Nativity scenes featuring human and animal figures fashioned out of wood and other materials. They were designed to make biblical

stories meaningful to the general public, many of whom could not read and found visual presentations more compelling than oral recountings of stories.

Through the centuries, tableaux vivants moved from churches to town squares, with their subject matter broadening beyond religious scenes to history, literature, art and politics.

When done outdoors the tableaux vivants were called pageants and were often presented much like a parade — mounted on wagons or floats and hauled through the streets.

For many years, the pageant of the Masters took a traditional

approach to the art works it chose to reproduce, relying on old masters, such as Michelangelo, Leonardo and Rubens.

Eytchison, however, has taken the show to new heights, broadening the material greatly.

"I found that in order to keep it interesting and a little less predictable it's been necessary to include things like French cabaret posters from the turn of the century," he said.

It takes an entire year to plan, produce and rehearse the one show that is mounted seven nights a week for an eight-week season. The pageant relies heavily on volunteers, including about 150 actors.

After 15 seasons as the

pageant director, Eytchison said he knows instinctively what art works can be reproduced.

"Here's an example of what will kill us," he said. "My first year here, in '79, I put a bunch of paintings in a row without breaking them up with sculpture."

Now, when scouring magazines and auction house catalogues he knows instantly not only what works can be reproduced from a technical standpoint, but what will form an interesting show.

Too many paintings with the same tempo — what Eytchison calls the same musical colours — make for a boring show. One of his challenges is finding variety.

"There's an abundance of languid lady-by-the-lake paintings," he said. "There's a shortage, of aggressive masculine paintings that can be used to contrast with others."

This year's show includes an assortment of posters from Hollywood's silent era, paintings by Edward Hopper, Claude Monet and Rene Magritte, as well as sculptures from Buddhist temples of Japan, a pair of bronze art nouveau scones, and a sculpture by Frederick Remington. As is the pageant's tradition, the show closes with Leonardo Da Vinci's The Last Supper.

There are a handful of

other tableaux vivants produced around the world, including one in Utah and several in Europe. But Eytchison — insisting that he is not trying to sound arrogant and egotistical — said the pageant of the Masters surpasses them all.

"What makes us special is that we do it better than anyone else on the planet," he said. "We have the experience and knowledge, and we just do it better than anyone else."

Those who see the pageant of the Masters know that Eytchison is not exaggerating. The pageant of the Masters runs through Aug. 2

Jordanian doctor — a pioneer in cryosurgery

By Roger Signor
ST. LOUIS Mission —
Jessie Murray, 78, a retired Chrysler inspector who lives in Pacific, chose a controversial way of treating his prostate cancer.

Instead of having his prostate surgically removed, he had it frozen. Dr. Abraham S. Hawatmeh of St. Louis inserted tiny "cryoprobes" into Murray's malignant gland last December. The probes' tips contained liquid nitrogen that cooled his gland to 40 degrees below zero that should have been cold enough to destroy the cancer cells; a process that requires

freezing the entire prostate. So far, so good: Last month, tests showed that he was free of cancer, Murray said. Because of his age and heart condition, Murray said he was glad he had the choice between freezing his prostate or having major surgery. "I was in and out of the hospital in less than a day," he said. "I had a problem with incontinence at first, but I was back to normal in a week."

Eight area urologists have begun doing cryosurgery since Dr. Hawatmeh introduced the procedure here in September 1993. Of the more than 100 men who have had their prostates frozen since then, Dr. Hawatmeh has done 62 of the cryosurgeries. Nationwide, 3,000 men have had the new treatment, which doctors in Pittsburgh introduced. They refined an old cryosurgical technique used in the 1970s but dropped in the 1980s because patients had too many complications.

The prostate, a chestnut-sized gland at the bladder's neck, produces fluid that enhances the potency of semen. The prostate is prone to cancer. Prostate cancer is second only to lung cancer in the amount of disease deaths it causes among males. In the United States, 132,000 cases of prostate cancer were diagnosed last year, and 34,000 more men died from it. Missouri reported 3,600 new prostate cancer cases in 1993 — plus 750 deaths from this form of cancer. Most urologists, here, however, aren't sure that cryosurgery has been tested enough. So they're waiting for more tests to prove that it's effective and safe. "I think patients should know that when they con-

sent to cryosurgery for prostate cancer, they're getting a treatment in which the effectiveness and safety isn't known," says Dr. Gerald Andriole, associate professor of urology at Washington University Medical Centre. Even though the centre recently bought cryosurgery equipment, doctors there are holding off using it until they are sure it functions properly, he said. Those tests could take three or four months, he said. Proponents of cryosurgery believe that it will prove as effective as complete surgical removal

of the prostate. They also believe it will result in fewer complications than surgery. It shortens hospital stays and permits patients to return to work sooner than standard surgery, they say. "But prostatectomy — or surgical removal of the prostate — is still the gold standard in treating prostate cancer," said Dr. Hawatmeh chief of Urology at St. Anthony Medical Centre. The hospital paid about \$500,000 for the equipment to do the freezing procedure. Most urologists perform prostatectomies only on men whose cancer hasn't

spread from the prostate, Dr. Hawatmeh said. He said he applies the same rule for cryosurgery. "If cryosurgery works, fine," he said. "But if the cancer returns, we haven't burned our bridges because you still have the options of refreezing the prostate — or offering conventional surgery." He said half his patients get conventional surgery. The new cryosurgery equipment used by Dr. Hawatmeh was developed by Dr. Jeffrey K. Cohen of Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh. Early results are promising, Dr. Cohen said. In 300 men whom he treated with cryosurgery alone — or with cryosurgery plus hormone therapy — 80 per cent were free of cancer two years after the treatment, he said. Dr. Cohen called the treatment "a viable option" for men who have: — Reached age 70, — Had unsuccessful radiation treatments. — Serious medical problems that make them poor candidates for prostatectomies. But it will take five to 10 years to tell whether the cryosurgery is curing prostate cancer, Dr. Hawatmeh said. — St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Everyday life with a portable heart- machine

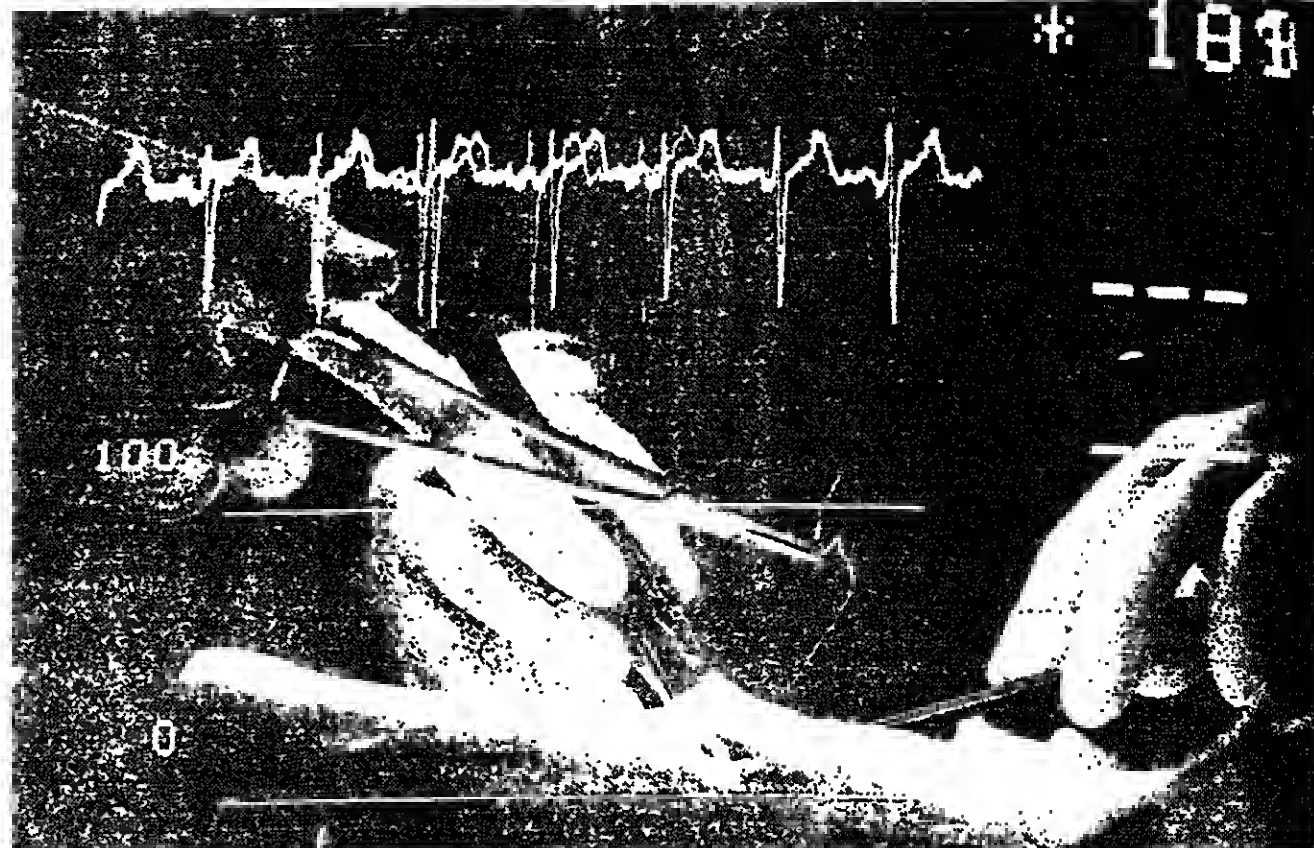
By Michèle Bistry
Mechanical pumps, which are partly implanted in the body and partly external, enable those suffering from serious heart disease to wait for a possible human organ. In spite of this great technological achievement, it is still a terrible ordeal for the patients. At Henri Mondor Hospital in Créteil near Paris, which is one of the pioneers in this technique, special importance is given to care provided for patients waiting for a transplant.

PARIS — In his heart surgery department, Professor Daniel Loisanec had gathered together people whose lives had been saved thanks to a human heart transplant, but also because a machine had enabled them to wait for a heart to become available. They gathered round Francis, who had been living with a portable artificial half-heart, the left ventricle, for 20 days already. Experience has shown that, in most cases, it is enough to have a pump take over from the left ventricle alone, as this is the one

that is used the most. The pump is implanted in the abdomen and its miniaturised controls are contained in a small case that can be carried over the shoulder. It was at Henri Mondor Hospital that such a device was implanted for the first time in the world, last March. Since then, 23 such devices have been implanted in Europe, and three in the United States. If we limit ourselves to a scientific and medical description, it is difficult to imagine the changes that these impressive machines (artificial hearts today,

perhaps artificial livers in the near future) contribute to medical science. Although it is sometimes difficult to adapt to having this machine linked up to the human body, some people feel definitely optimistic on seeing Mr. Renaud, a peasant in the centre of France, always ready for a laugh, who was the first man to live for two months with a portable Novacor. He had a heart transplant on May 13, after living with the machine for nearly two months and today he goes about repairing his roof and selling his fir-trees. There was also a young bank manager and Sonia, a light-eyed young girl, who had survived thanks to external ventricles. They all want to live like normal people now. Yet none of them can forget that suffering and disease are always lonely adventures, that, on several occasions, they wavered between life and death and that, at one time, they refused to go on fighting for their lives. Sonia's mother had had to stop her from tearing out the tubes linking her up to her external heart. The young banker remembers how suddenly the disease

had appeared. He thought he had simply had an upset stomach and then he had the shock of learning that his heart had reached the end of the road. The scientific term was idiopathic cardiomyopathy, which means that, suddenly, without any apparent reason, the heart dilated and no longer functioned. Then came the time of waiting for a donor with life being lived at a slower and slower pace. They all had a feeling of exclusion, in spite of the love of their families and the warm support of the hospital staff. "I want to forget it now and to live like anybody else", the young banker firmly asserts. He has had no sign of rejection and no visible side effects. The global statistics of failures cannot concern him and it is probably true. These portable machines mean being able to leave the intensive care unit sooner, moving about in the ward, going down to buy a newspaper or going to the hospital cafeteria. It means more than little joys. It means being able to get back into everyday life faster. Even if it relies on machines using all the resources of knowledge in



Waiting for a heart transplant, the lives of many patients are saved by the mechanical pumps partly implanted in their body

biology, electronics and miniaturisation, medical science cares for human beings and not for computers. Their complete collaboration is needed if they are to live. They have a pump in place of their heart but one can see that a heart is not just a mechanical pump. The public marvels at the artificial heart which replaces a mythical organ. Specialists expect even more from it. They want it

to save the life of a patient whose condition has deteriorated rapidly and for whom no heart donor is immediately available. But they also want to shorten their stay in the intensive care unit as much as possible as it cuts the patient off from the reality of life. Thus, in the space of a few months, 23 Novacors were implanted in Europe. Two patients died, six still live with their machine and the

others waited for an average of 50 days before receiving their heart transplants. Two issues were raised as soon as the artificial hearts and total ventricular assistance became operational: Owing to the lack of organs, was priority going to be given to patients on machines? Would the health systems which are on the verge of financial asphyxia be able to bear the cost of these devices? The first tests showed that many patients who were on the brink of death owing to a sudden worsening in their situation were not hopeless cases. Help from the machine is not a desperate last effort. So it is perfectly legitimate for them to be allowed to wait for a transplant. Industrialists are petrified at the idea of giving the figures which are impressive at first sight. The initial investment goes on training the medical team and this can amount to 350,000 francs for a dozen people if it is carried out in

the United States. The computer which operates the ventricle comes to about 540,000 francs and the ventricle itself, which cannot be re-used, costs 300,000 francs. The rapid increase in trials in Europe and their favourable results should quickly bring the prices down when more machines become available. Even for large hospitals, it is an important investment. The team at Henri Mondor was only able to start its programme with the help of sponsors, a private association and by taking personal financial risks. But if life has a price, so does death. A person under cardiogenic shock can stay in the intensive care unit for up to 17 days at an estimated cost of 197,000 francs. Leaving the intensive care unit sooner and being given a better chance while waiting for a transplant in a stationary condition are also savings that can be calculated — L'Actualité En France.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

COMING AND GOING
By Harold B. Cousins

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Trace mineral may play role in AIDS development

ATLANTA (AP) — A hypothesis that the AIDS virus slowly depletes the body of the trace mineral selenium, which it uses to erupt into uninfected cells, bolsters the notion that supplements of the nutrient could combat the disease. The theory by University of Georgia researchers was published in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry. It suggests HIV produces proteins that consume the body's supply of selenium. Although the proteins and the genes that tell them what to do have not been found, scientists are trying to prove their existence. According to the theory, HIV needs selenium, which preserves the elasticity of body tissue and slows the aging process, to trigger its growth. Once the virus exhausts the selenium in an infected cell, it breaks out in search of more, spreading the infection to new cells. Many AIDS patients lack selenium and have taken supplements on their own. For several years, a number of researchers and doctors have encouraged selenium as part of the patients' dietary supplement. It was thought that

AIDS patients had trouble absorbing the nutrient from food, but the new work suggests another reason for the depletion. "If this is true, then selenium, biochemistry may be the key to understanding the control of the life cycle of HIV and perhaps some of the pathology of AIDS," said Will Taylor, who headed the research team at Georgia College of Pharmacy. He said the length of time it takes to deplete the body's stores of selenium could help account for HIV's latency period, which can last for years. "This suggests that nutritional status may be a factor in some HIV-positive long-term survivors," Dr. Taylor said. Although taking selenium supplements may sound odd, Dr. Taylor said it may work to keep the AIDS virus in check. "It's very exciting work," said Gerhard Schrauzer, a biochemist and proponent of selenium supplements at the University of California at San Diego. "It shows that we must look at all aspects of the virus ... and treatments that could include simple nutritional agents."

ANSWERS

- BANK OF KNOWLEDGE**
- (1) It is the phrase, first used by Edmund Burke, the famous 18th century statesman, for the press. The other three estates are the lords temporal (peers), lords spiritual (archbishops and bishops) and the commons.
 - (2) A huge pyramid built in Peru about 1500 years ago by the Moche people. It was said to contain nearly 100,000,000 bricks!
 - (3) They were young and wealthy men from Britain who, in the 1760s and 1770s travelled in Italy on the Grand Tour and sported some of the fashions they had brought back. The name arose from a club they formed, called the Macaroni Club, which introduced macaroni as a regular dish at the well-known London restaurant of Almack's.
 - (4) Grand Central railway terminal in New York City. It covers nearly twelve hectares (30 acres).
 - (5) In Britain it means £100,000 and in the U.S. \$100,000.
- PUZZLES**
- (A) INCORRECTLY.
(B) Moscow is nearest the equator, and Edinburgh is farthest from it.
(C) The hidden word is LATE.

Democracy, security, regional cooperation are pillars of peace — Majali

Premier: King's honesty and openness rallied public support behind progress in Jordanian-Israeli track of negotiations

Following is the full text of the speech Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali delivered at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council Tuesday

IT GIVES me great pleasure to address this august gathering at the kind invitation of your distinguished council. The timing of this invitation comes at a stage in our lives when for the first time a new era of peace is dawning upon our region of the world.

Peace is not an accident of history; it is a systemic and a deliberate process which requires the vision of architects, the mastery of craftsmen and the patience of wise men. Without laying the proper foundations and using the proper materials, we would end with a shaky structure which may not withstand the first serious test. The heritage of war and enmity still looms overhead, and it cannot be erased by euphoric media scenes and warm words and handshakes, in front of clicking cameras. It is a serious business, and each party should present a convincing ledger to its people in order to show them that peace will leave them better off. What we are after in Jordan is a peace that is embodied in a contract among generations vowing not to resort to war, but spend their energies on the creation of a better life for all.

We in Jordan have a dream. We believe in it, and harness our will and resources for its realisation. Jordan has always been a party to inter-Arab regional arrangements, always fulfilling our duties and responsibilities. So it is even in the most difficult days when our foreign reserves dwindled to pocket scraps, we honoured our foreign obligations. It is with the same dedication that we approach the peace undertaking. We want to honour our obligations, fulfill our duties, reap our benefits and support all of these with unwavering political will to ensure its permanence and continuity.

Jordan became a state in 1921 under the Hashemite dynasty with His Highness Prince Abdullah as the head of state. As a Hashemite and a descendant of the Prophet, he brought the needed legitimacy. As an inheritor of, and a soldier in the Arab Revolt initiated five years earlier by his father Sharif Hussain Bin Ali, Prince Abdullah opened Jordan further for all Arabs to take part in building an Arab Jordan.

The building of a new country based on the frontier spirit and the ideas of democracy and pluralism was going on with relentless effort. It was not until 1946, after the end of World War II, that Jordan had gained its independence from the British and became the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The fight of unified people against the dearth of natural endowment is quite an admirable saga. Man-versus-land story in Jordan is one of hard work and tolerance. Until 1948, we had difficulty making ends meet. The war between Arabs and Israelis in 1948 brought a shattering change. Yet, Jordan's military performance managed to save the east part of Jerusalem from occupation. In 1950, the West Bank, or the remaining unoccupied part of Palestine, with the exception of the Gaza was unified with Jordan, as the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. On a sad day, in the summer of 1951, King Abdullah was assassinated in Al Aqsa Mosque, the very place which he had saved three years earlier.

In 1952, King Hussein, 17-year-old young, came to power. He witnessed one shattering shock after the other.

The biggest shock came in 1967 when the June war of that year led to the occupation of the West Bank and the forced movement of (400,000) people to the East Bank. In November of that year, Jordan

actively participated in the drafting of the famous Security Council Resolution 242 from which the current negotiations derive their raison d'être.

The shocks of 1973, 1982 and the second Gulf war of 1991 put Jordan in the eye of the storm. Each war brought to it new waves of migrants to Jordan, thus destabilising the already hard-won balance between people and resources.

This fast survey of Jordan's history is meant to reveal the depth of Jordanian affinity with the Arab-Israeli conflict. We learned the hard way that war meant destruction and loss of human lives. While they consumed resources, wars also brought added human and financial problems. For Jordan, every war meant a new beginning. To have to start a new war once every decade since 1921 has been a very painful experience.

Our ceaseless quest for peace does not derive its strength from purely philosophical tendencies, but from the very depth of life and the will to live it until the last day. Our story in Jordan has been a continuous strife to walk the critical line that separates between survival and decent living, between cold war and regional antagonism, and between war and peace.

We have been aware of the keen need for tranquility and the opportunity it brings to build wealth which can be extended from one generation to another. The atmosphere of uncertainty, which Jordan has been facing, worked as an impetus to rationalise expectations but with short-term emphasis.

His Majesty King Hussein always called for comprehensive peace where all the legitimate rights of the people in the region be fully recognised, and the relations among countries should be based on the ideals of mutual respect and the right to live in peace with secure and recognised boundaries. His Majesty's original initiative emanated from Resolution

338, which called on all parties to the Middle East conflict to resolve their disputes through negotiations. His Majesty called for the convening of an international conference with the participation of the regional parties and the five permanent members of the Security Council. The Geneva conference was convened in the early eighties for a short period, and was eventually disbanded when its promise of an acceptable solution seemed as possible as a blue moon. After the second Gulf war and the end of the East-West cold war, the need for peace in the Mid-

mony and the speeches delivered therein were not important for their content. However, they helped produce clear images of the parties involved. The Palestinians were not viewed as a problem, but as a distinct body of human beings who have an intrinsic recognisable identity which could not be ignored. Their presence in Madrid, although under the Jordanian umbrella, as an entrance provision, alienated the stereotyped nation that they were merely a bunch of terrorists. The euphoria of the Madrid conference put everybody, with the world at large as a

Our ceaseless quest for peace does not derive its strength from purely philosophical tendencies, but from the very depth of life and the will to live it until the last day. Our story in Jordan has been a continuous strife to walk the critical line that separates between survival and decent living, between cold war and regional antagonism, and between war and peace.

dle East was viewed as a necessity for the region and the world community as well. The Middle East peace was imperative for the world's comprehensive security, trade flows and oil supplies. Moreover, the Gulf war enhanced the appetite of the U.N. system to activate its peace vision for the resolution of protracted regional problems.

The sponsors of peace in the Middle East, namely the United States and Russia, mounted a campaign to set up a peace-making strategy. It was the Bush administration which spearheaded the effort through the shuttle trips in the region by Mr. Baker and his peace team in the State Department. After eight extensive trips, the Madrid invitation was formulated and in October 1991, Madrid witnessed the inauguration of a peace process. The opening cere-

witness, on the irreversible track leading to ultimate peace.

It is almost three years since the inauguration of the peace negotiations in Madrid. We have covered since that October 1991, date lots of ground, and as Robert Frost would say "there are still miles to go." Progress has been achieved on the Palestinian track.

Progress on the Jordanian track witnessed a slow-down after the signature of the common agenda on Sept. 14, 1993 in Washington, D.C. Such a hill was basically an Israeli decision when they insisted on violating the common agenda insisting that the boundary issue could only be discussed within the framework of a peace treaty. According to the common agenda, the boundary issue was among the items which once resolved would



Dr. Abdul Salam Majali

culminate in a peace treaty. The Israeli position was countered by Jordan in a positive manner. We first suggested that the resolution of the boundary issue will be considered by Jordan as a constructive step towards the cultivation of a peace treaty. When such a proposal was turned down, Jordan proposed that both countries could sign agreements on whatever issues both parties succeeded in resolving in a manner satisfactory to both.

Once the Israelis discovered that advancement on issues of priority to them like economic cooperation and security measures would not be implemented in practice without agreement on boundaries, the Israeli position softened and progress on the Jordanian track witnessed in July in particular a boost of unimaginable magnitude. Yet academic honesty dictates

me to say that the sluggishness on other tracks was partially responsible for increased interest in the Jordanian track.

Before progress was registered on the Jordanian track this summer, His Majesty King Hussein alerted the Jordanian people of what was coming. His honesty and openness rallied public opinion behind him on this matter. While it was foolish to plunge too fast, it was equally wrong for Jordan to lag behind. His Majesty's trip to Washington, D.C. in July signalled the entrance of the Jordan-Israeli track into a new era; free of fear and myth. The Washington Declaration itself was a plan of action for the implementation of a number of articles on the common agenda.

After that trip, King Hussein flew over Jeru-

salem and conversed on the telephone with the president of Israel. These two pioneering actions paved the way for direct telephone linkages and the opening of serious negotiations on the use of air space by civilian flights. We made progress in the bilateral talks earlier this month on issues like trade with the Palestinian territories, tourism, electricity linkages, post and telecommunications, but we are still inching towards the resolution of the substantive issues such as boundaries and water.

The peace that we foresee rests on three main parameters. The first of which is the achievement of democracy and respect for human rights for all the people in the region. Lasting peace is a product of the grassroots and they should fully identify with its gains and pains. The second pillar of peace should be comprehensive security, where all people feel immune and safe from the threat of war, atomic fallout, toxic materials, poverty and joblessness. The third pillar is regional cooperation that is based on compatibility of living standards and meaningful exchange regimes.

We need the regional critical mass where pooling of resources can produce the needed essential goods of water, food and energy and at the same time enable the region to engage in a mutually beneficial exchange with the rest of the world. The spoils of war should be outweighed by the wealth of peace. We cannot continue to squander our resources on wars which breed further wars, hardship and strife. The vicious circle of war leading to poverty and vice versa should be broken and we think the golden opportunity made possible transcend whatever small passions we may have inherited from the legacy of conflict. The time is now. The Middle East should be in the years to come a focal point of attraction for the rest of the world.

Germans wonder about secret of Kohl's success

By Tom Heneghan
Reuters

DORTMUND, Germany — As he rolls towards his fourth election victory in a row, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has got Germans wondering what the secret of his success really is.

He's no great orator. Other leaders are far more popular. Public relations chiches like "charisma" or "sex appeal" hardly spring to mind when he steers his hulky frame through a room.

But Mr. Kohl, 64, due to formally open his campaign for the general election in Dortmund on Sunday, has confounded his critics once again and moved to the top of the opinion polls.

Barring a political earthquake, he should trounce his Social Democratic (SPD) challenger, Rudolf Scharping, on Oct. 16 and return to form the next government in Bonn.

So how does he do it? Der Spiegel, the left-leaning weekly that has written his political obituary several times in the past, attempted an answer with a recent cover story portraying Mr. Kohl as a charming locomotive under the headline "the power machine."

Focus, a rival weekly closer to Mr. Kohl; countered with a folksy photograph of him and the nickname "der huerger king," a neat bilingual pun evoking both hefty hamburgers and the idea of Mr. Kohl as a "Citizen King."

"I don't try to psychoanalyse myself," the confident chancellor told Focus. "I know my weaknesses and some of my strengths. Others can judge the rest."

Elisabeth Noelle-Neumann, the doyenne of German opinion pollsters and a Kohl adviser for years, says the chancellor has an unusually fine ear for

what the average German thinks.

"He knows better than we do what people think," she said in a recent television discussion analysing the Kohl phenomenon.

"We have a contest to guess in advance the annual result we'll get for one question we ask every month. He played along for three years and won all three years in a row."

For management consultant Gertrud Hoehler, Mr. Kohl's rambling speaking style and apparent reliance on "gut feelings" about policies hide a far more systematic approach to power.

"A lot of what Kohl does is attributed to a sixth sense" because, like all leaders, he reveals little about how much he really knows," she said. "He has a very good memory and an unusually perfected network of contacts."

His clumsy movements and provincial accent, often the butt of intellectuals' jokes, reassure average Germans.

"Kohl is not a media personality, he's a throw-back, a dinosaur, one of the last of the great non-communicators," remarked Helmut Markwort, editor-in-chief of Focus magazine.

"He's like a lot of his voters in the way he eats and the fact he has gone to the same place for holidays for the past 25 years. He's one of millions, just more determined. They don't love him but they trust him."

Behind the reassuring image, Mr. Kohl ranks as one of Germany's best when it comes to cutting deals, pulling strings and mercilessly freezing out rivals within his party.

His skill in finding loyal staff was such an established fact that one spectacular flop — his failure last year to make arch-



Helmut Kohl

conservative Steffen Heitmann Germany's next president — unleashed weeks of speculation about a supposed "twilight of the chancellor" and his impending defeat at the polls.

Mr. Kohl's power base is his Christian Democratic Union (CDU), the Conservative Party he has headed for 21 years and turned into a dense network of allies and proteges.

Convinced the economy was coming out of recession, Mr. Kohl delivered a fighting speech at a congress in February that helped turn the CDU's mood from deep gloom to optimism.

Like in 1989, when the fall of the Berlin Wall unex-

pectedly handed him the opportunity to unite Germany, Mr. Kohl has also been blessed this year with a good portion of luck.

His campaign has marched ahead with hardly a hitch while Mr. Scharping, a colourless moderate who wanted to steal votes from the centre, committed several tactical gaffs and then shifted back towards a left-wing alliance.

Mr. Scharping's Clinton-style campaign for change, conceived last year when Mr. Kohl's standing was low and unemployment was high, may have been perfect for 1993. It looks out of step with the economic recovery and restored confidence in 1994.

By Charles J. Hanley
The Associated Press

NJOGU-UNI, Kenya — In misty green African highlands not far from where pre-historic man got his start, modern man may be getting a sneak preview of his end.

Ragged and weary Kenyan peasants, swinging hoes, scattering seed, are trying to grow corn along the shoulders of a road, on pitiful, arms-width strips of rocky earth they hope can feed their families.

There's too little good land in Kenya and too many babies.

"Seven or eight are usual, and some women have been having 15 children," reports local nurse Ruth Waibanya.

Ms. Waibanya has helped obtain the first regular supplies of contraceptives and family-planning advice for this mountain hamlet. Now the women talk about limiting their babies to three or four.

Multiply Njogu-uni by thousands of dirt-poor villages and hundreds of jam-packed cities across the globe, and you have some sense of the grim — and accelerating — arithmetic facing delegates to next week's International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo.

The numbers can be startling:

— By doubling since the mid-1950s, human population has grown more in just the past two generations than in all of man's previous years on Earth put together.

— Despite gains made by aggressive birth-control programmes in China and elsewhere, world population, now at 5.7 billion, could explode to 12.5 billion by the middle of the next century.

— Africa's population, the planet's fastest-growing, is projected to leap from 700 million to 1.1 billion in the next 16 years.

— Basic resources... are being depleted and environmental pollution is intensifying, driven by the unprecedented growth in human numbers. The world's

Four babies per second swell world population — Africa in lead

nations warn in the draft "programme of action" readied for Cairo.

The woman who heads the U.N. Population Fund says the 1990s are a crucial decade because huge numbers of females, babies of the fertile '70s and '80s, will be in their own child-bearing years.

"Actions of today and consistent action over the next 10 years can change the course and level at which populations can stabilise in the whole world," Nafis Sadik said in New York.

Some specialists, seeing what can be done in places like Kenya, are hopeful.

Just a decade ago, this country led the world in human fertility. The average woman was bearing eight children. Then the national government, with U.S. and other aid money, began a crash programme.

Health workers were trained in contraceptive methods. Trucks took to Kenya's roads carrying boxes of contraceptives to distant clinics. Family-planning agents went door to door. Today, \$2 million in U.S. aid is spent each year just on condoms for Kenyans.

Dramatic changes followed: The proportion of married women using contraceptives — the pill, in-

jections, condoms, intrauterine devices — has doubled to 33 per cent, and the fertility rate has dropped from eight to 5.4 children per woman.

Kenya, a nation of 27 million people headed for 45 million by the year 2010, is an exception in Africa. Over the horizon in Uganda, Malawi, Mali, the fertility rate remains over 7, and fewer than one in 10 women use contraceptives.

The reasons are many: lower education levels, uninterested governments, higher rates of infant mortality, a subconscious spur to the birth rate.

"You can't do this sort of thing when your country is in turmoil, suffering from political instability, from drought and famine," said S.B.A. Bulhitt, director of Kenya's National Council for Population and Development.

But even Kenya has a long way to go.

Surveys suggest an additional one-third of Kenyan women want to limit family size, but are not using contraceptives. Getting services to them will require more aid money and greater efforts to overcome male resistance and cultural and religious taboos.

This "unmet need" may be most pressing among

Kenians under age 18, who are barred from receiving contraception services.

Illegal abortions are becoming commonplace among teen-agers in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya's capital, said sociologist Shanyisa Khasiani.

"We're burying our heads in the sand," she said.

The Population Council wants to lower the age for contraception services to 15. "That would make a significant difference in the fertility rate," the council's Joseph Ndambuki said.

But the government is wary of the Roman Catholic church, a powerful local force that opposes even current family-planning programmes.

If all "unmet needs" were met, the Kenyan fertility rate still would probably drop no lower than about four children per woman, a long way from the ultimate goal of two per couple, after which a population eventually stabilises.

To get there, Kenya — and dozens of other developing nations — must undergo a revolution in education, and in giving women greater economic roles and security, and more say over reproduction.

The Cairo conference will address such themes: big boosts in foreign aid for family planning, dealing with religious objections, helping women.

But in country after country, a still greater force is limiting family size.

At a clinic here in the coffee country north of Nairobi, Tabitha Wanjohi, 30, explained in homely terms why she'll have no more.

"Four is enough," she said, and then laughed. "Nowadays, with inflation, you have to take care. Otherwise, they can go naked and hungry."

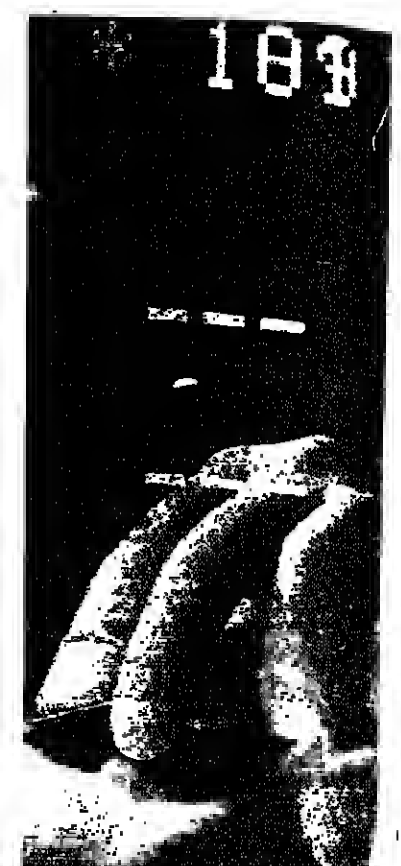
Poverty, overcrowding, hard times are combining to slow down the species in many places, including in the planet's most densely populated land, in far-off South Asia.

with cryosurgery alone — or with cryosurgery plus hormone therapy — 80 per cent were free of cancer two years after the treatment, he said.

Dr. Cohen called the treatment "a viable option" for men who have: — Reached age 70. — Had unsuccessful radiation treatments.

— Serious medical problems that make them poor candidates for prostatectomies.

But it will take five to 10 years to tell whether the cryosurgery is curing prostate cancer, Dr. Hawatmeh said — St. Louis Post-Dispatch.



...d by the mechanic.

the United States. The computer which operates the ventricle comes to about \$40,000 francs and the ventricle itself, which cannot be re-used, costs 300,000 francs. The rapid increase in trials in Europe and their favourable results should quickly bring the prices down when more machines become available. Even for large hospitals, it is an important investment. The team at Henri Mondor was only able to start its programme with the help of sponsors, a private association and by taking personal financial risks. But if life has a price, so does death. A person under cardiogenic shock can stay in the intensive care unit for up to 17 days at an estimated cost of 197,000 francs. Leaving the intensive care unit sooner and being given a better chance while waiting for a transplant in a stationary condition are also savings that can be calculated — L'Actualité En France.

WERS

KNOWLEDGE

used by Edmund Burke, the statesman, for the press. The lords temporal (peers), bishops and bishops) and the

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d wealthy men from Britain in 1776 travelled in Italy on the Macaroni Club, which was a regular dish at the restaurant of Almacks.

terminal in New York City, he becares (30 acres). £100,000 and in the U.S.

ILES

e equator, and Edinburgh is

Individuals

does per six. M) Scrapping the university education exemption due to the difficulties encountered in its consideration. N) Exempting medical expenses incurred inside or outside the Kingdom as a result of undergoing an operation or treatment for an incurable illness.

ROSCOPE

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 1994
astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

9: It is time to take a new approach to a long time. There are likely to be financial concerns with another Capricorn.

19) Take time to clear up any social and increase harmony. Ease will be quite stressful.

20) A health defect can be alleviated or by taking the right treatments now. Be

21) Daytime hours are best for punting and making headway with it. Be more activities.

22 to July 21) You know how to add to and do so. Be sure business affairs are your satisfaction.

Study important papers carefully so that content. Don't leave yourself wide open; pragmatic.

22) Be more cooperative with and get fine results. Avoid unnecessary in is short supply.

22) Make long-range plans which y in the future. Use practical sense in all experts.

22) Obtain the data you need s. Get rid of small tasks which impede motion today.

22 to December 21) Find better ways of icy are soon yours. The evening can be less friends.

22 to January 20) An outside matter you can solve it nicely by being more re sincere.

February 19) Know your true position d make plans for improvement. Estab- a for the future.

22) Plan ways of improving regular st be exercised now to avoid possible away.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 1994

astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

Study the best way to carry through are made to insure getting the best te system for handling your obligations

9) Engage in civic work you enjoy and e it tonight and restore lagging

5) Find the right way to advance in social expert can give advice for a plan success.

1) Be clever and you relieve tensions through with regular duties intelligent-lytics.

12 to July 21) Plan how to gain more aside world. Show increased devotion house.

Schedule your time and activities well ore. Enjoy a fine social activity in the

ember 22) If you get your tasks done e more time later for the recreational

tober 22) Find the best way to improve ore diplomatic with family members. your appearance.

November 21) Make the changes now ad faster in your career. Be more re within your house.

22 to December 21) Find a better way an add to your present assets. Survive to activities.

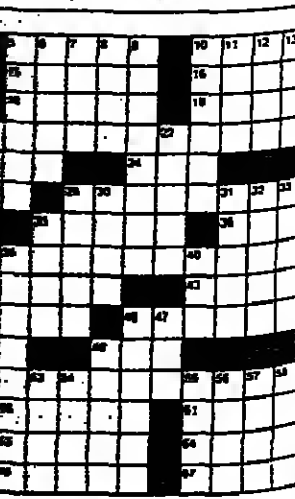
to January 20) Get busy and gain your unive prompting could be erroneous

February 19) Handle those practical th a great deal today. Take no risks in be disastrous.

March 20) Joining with friends in to be helpful in solving them. Handle row could get ahead.

ber: Sapphire — Lapis Lazuli

Word by Don Johnson



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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Jurgen Klinsmann

Klinsmann leads Tottenham to victory over Ipswich

LONDON (AP) — Tottenham swept its way into the credit Tuesday as Jurgen Klinsmann continued his superb start to life in the English Premier League, scoring twice in Spurs' 3-1 win over Ipswich.

The German striker's fellow off-season signing, Romania's Ilie Dumitrescu netted his first goal for Spurs as the 24.6 million (\$6.9 million) Tottenham spent on the pair is paying dividends.

Tottenham oozed class and confidence in a blistering first half and Dumitrescu and Darren Anderton also hit the bar as Spurs' 3-0 half time lead could easily have been 5-0.

The north London club is to have six points deducted by the Football Association (FA) at the end of the season for past financial irregularities, but has now had three wins from four matches to take it to nine points.

Even with the punishment, on three points Spurs would be mid-table, seven points from leader Nottingham Forest and showing the form which could lift it much further.

Forest took over at the head of the standings with a 2-1 win over Everton to give it three wins and a tie from four matches.

In Tuesday's other Premier League match, Leeds beat Crystal Palace 2-1. Klinsmann began the move he finished for Spurs to take the lead on the 15 minute mark with a pass to Nick Barmby, who found Teddy Sheringham. The England striker rolled the ball low across goal and Klinsmann darted forward to whip it into the roof of the net.

Another fluent move involving Anderton, Barmby and Klinsmann ended with Dumitrescu diving forward to head home the German's cross after 28 minutes.

Then Anderton's 30th-minute corner was headed on by Stuart Neathercott and Klinsmann pounced to force the ball in.

Cris Kwamye sparked a late Ipswich rally when he punished a defensive error to make it 3-1.

A superb overhead kick by

Colin Cooper lifted Forest to the top of the standings with a 61st minute goal to give it an unassailable 2-0 lead.

Forest went ahead through an own goal by Andy Hincliffe in the 24th minute.

Paul Rideout gave Everton hope when he headed in Vinny Samways' precise cross after 68 minutes.

Teenager Noel Whelan scored his third goal in three games as Leeds inflicted the second home defeat of the season on Crystal Palace.

Whelan, 19, was on the spot to nod the ball over the line for the 63rd minute winner.

Dean Gordon equalised 10 minutes after the break for Palace after David White had put Leeds ahead after 17 minutes.

In division one, Graham Taylor's Wolverhampton lost 2-1 to Watford and promoted Reading had a massive 4-0 win over Stoke City. Sean McCarthy scored three goals in 18 minutes as Oldham moved to the top of the standings with a 3-1 win over Notts County.

A superb overhead kick by

Shocked Schumacher loses appeal against 2-race ban

PARIS (AFP) — World championship leader Michael Schumacher said he was "shocked and disappointed" here Tuesday after his appeal against a two-race ban was thrown out by a special tribunal.

The German was attempting to reverse his disqualification from the British Grand Prix July 10 and a further two-race ban for disobeying a black flag during the Silverstone race.

The Federation Internationale de l'Automobile's (FIA) court of appeal decided to uphold the ban imposed by its World Council July 26.

The court rejected Schumacher's explanation that he misunderstood the meaning of the black flag, believing it signified a five-second penalty and not an order to car number five, his Benetton-Ford, to come into the pits.

Schumacher will miss the next two Grand Prix, the Italian at Monza Sept. 11 and the Portuguese, at Estoril Sept. 25.

In a statement the Benetton team said it was "disappointed" at the decision. Though admitting mistakes were made, it said "the penalty has been too harsh."

The team said Finland's JJ Lehto would replace Schumacher in his two-race absence.

"We will now concentrate on the next two Grand Prix,"

Benetton team managing director Flavio Briatore said. "While we look forward to Michael's return at Jerez to continue his pursuit of the World Championship title."

Schumacher appeared to be on the edge of tears and had difficulty controlling his voice when he told journalists afterwards he was "shocked and disappointed", and had not discussed the matter with his team because he needed time to absorb the decision.

Asked whether he intended to complete the season, he said: "I will not make any decisions right now. I need a few days to think about a lot of things and when it is time to make a decision I will let you know. But for the moment nothing has changed for me."

Two days ago the German was disqualified five hours after celebrating his victory in the Belgian Grand Prix, his eighth this season, and the race was awarded to the championship rival Damon Hill of Britain.

Race stewards ruled that Schumacher's Benetton-Ford was illegal because a compulsory wooden block under the car had been paired down. The shallower front of the wooden block could theoretically improve cornering.

Schumacher, 24, in his third Grand Prix season, has won seven races and leads Hill by 21 points. That could change dramatically and

Williams driver Hill could move within one point of the leader over the next two races.

The German driver said he had been given time to make the points to the appeal court judges, adding: "I leave it to you to decide if their decision was right."

Asked how the world championship would now develop, he said, "I don't know, we will see."

He had been scheduled to conduct tests of his Benetton over the next few days but said he did not know if he would now take part.

He defended his victory in Belgium, saying that he believed he had effectively won the race in the opening laps when the controversial wooden underbody plate was definitely of legal dimensions.

The German had dominated the race, leading for all but one of the 44 laps winning with ease from Hill, Finn Mika Hakkinen (McLaren Peugeot) and Dutch driver Jos Verstappen in the second Benetton-Ford.

Benetton's problems do not end with Schumacher's failed appeal. They also have to answer charges, in Paris Sept. 7, of illegally removing a filter from their refuelling equipment, which FIA says caused the fire to the second Benetton driven by Dutchman Jos Verstappen at the German Grand Prix July 31.



Michael Schumacher

NEWS IN BRIEF

Modahl second sample positive

MONACO (AFP) — English athlete Diane Modahl's second drug sample has tested positive, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) announced here Wednesday. The original sample taken after an athletics meet in Lisbon June 18 reportedly contained an abnormal level of testosterone. A brief announcement by the IAAF here said the B sample analysis had "confirmed the data obtained in the first, or A, analysis." The use of testosterone carries an automatic four-year ban. Modahl was sent home from the Commonwealth Games in Canada last week when the result of the first test was announced.

Mohammad Ali in Macau for award

MACAU (AFP) — World boxing legend Mohammad Ali arrived here Tuesday to receive a "fighter of the century award," the Lusa news agency reported. The three-time world heavyweight champion is scheduled to visit homes for the elderly and disabled Thursday, before he receives his award Friday, presented by the Concord Entertainment and Global Sports Network in conjunction with the U.S. National Boxing Association (NBA), it said. He will leave Sunday. His visit comes in connection with an NBA boxing bill in Macau Sept. 17. Originally the seven-bout event the honour Ali was scheduled for Saturday. The championship will feature former heavyweight champion Mike Weaver, current NBA heavyweight champion Bill Corrigan, featherweights Frisco Arcolla and Jeroma Coffee, as well as China's first professional boxer, Li Houqiang, Lusa said.

GOREN BRIDGE

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ONE-WAY STREET

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
7 5 3 2
K Q J 7
A K Q
8 2

WEST
A 10
9 2
1 8
A K J 7 6 4 3 2

EAST
9 8 7 6
K Q J 4
A 10 8
10 6 5 2
Q 10

The bidding:
North East South West
1 Pass 1 2
2 Pass 3 Pass
4 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠.

The secret to winning this technique, for both declarer and the defenders, is to count—both distribution and high-card points. Cover the South and East hands, study the bidding and decide on West's best chance to defeat the contract.

North-South were one of those rare pairs who still play four-card majors. South's auction suggested a hand just short of an opening bid with a four-card spade suit. North showed a sound opening and four

West led the king of clubs and when dummy appeared it was obvious that East could not be relied upon for more than a stray jack—dummy had 15 points, West 13 and North had to have 11-12 for the unbalanced sequence. Looking at all the numbers, you find a way to defeat the contract.

When no more information is given above, West unerringly spotted the successful defense. After counting the king and ace of clubs, West continued by breaking a cardinal defensive principle, yielding a ruff-suit by maintaining with a third club. East cooperated by ruffing and declarer overruffed with the jack.

A diamond in the queen provided the entry to lead a trump to the queen. West won and sealed declarer's fate by presenting North-South with another useless ruff-suit, leading a fourth club. East's ruff with the nine forced declarer to overruff with the king and West's ten of spades was promoted to the setting trick.

This deal highlights another winning principle. Don't relax because you think you have a useless hand. Had East not ruffed both partner's club leads, the setting trump trick would not have materialized.

South Korea is hopeful over taekwondo dispute

SEOUL (AFP) — South Korean sports officials said Wednesday they hoped to overcome unexpected objections from North Korea and get their version of taekwondo accepted for the Sydney 200 Olympics.

"More than 80 per cent of the members (of the International Olympic Committee) are tilted towards the WTF (World Taekwondo Federation)," WTF Deputy Secretary General Song Sang-Kuen

told AFP.

North Korea threw down the gauntlet in Paris Tuesday, saying that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) would adversely affect the reunification of the two Koreas if it accepted either the southern or the northern version.

It said the North's International Taekwondo Federation (ITF), which practises a non-contact version of the sport, was older than the

WTF and that it had 14 million registered players in 113 countries.

Said the North's Jong Ja-Hum: "The two taekwondo federations must merge before it becomes an international sport."

South Korea's Kim Un-Young, who is vice president of the IOC, and president of the WTF shot back with statistics showing 144 countries and 50 million members for the WTF.

"It's the same old play they (the North) use in inter-Korean dialogue — saying OK let's play then coming up with an 'unreasonable' excuse to stop, and sticking to it, blocking any movement," said a frustrated Song.

Said Kim in Paris Tuesday: "I don't see what politics has to do with it."

The IOC is scheduled to address the issue of whether to introduce the ancient Korean martial form into the games.

The South Korean bid to have taekwondo accepted as a games event has dragged on fruitlessly for 14 years — ever since Seoul pitched to have it included in the Seoul Olympics in 1988.

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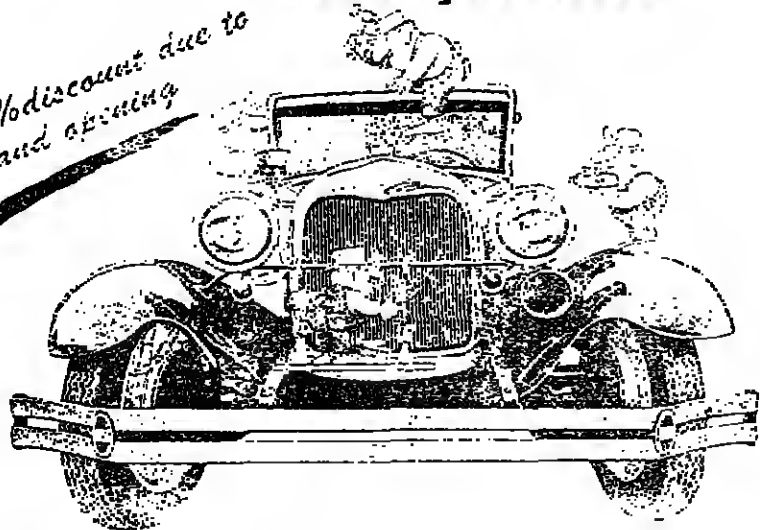


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Sports



Jackson and the gold

Boxing legend Muhammad Ali is expected to win the heavyweight title at the upcoming fight against Mike Weaver in Macau. Ali is the defending champion and has won the title multiple times. Weaver is a former champion and a tough opponent. The fight is scheduled for September 17th in Macau.

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UNDERCOVER BLU



Britain's 110-m hurdles star Colin Jackson (left) and U.S. long jumper Mike Powell smile as they pose with a pile of chocolate in gold medal shape at the end of the Berlin athletics meet Tuesday (AFP photo)

Jackson and Powell share the gold jackpot

BERLIN (AP) — Hurdler Colin Jackson and long jumper Mike Powell split a jackpot of 20 kilograms of gold Tuesday by winning their events at the ISTAF track and field meet.

Jackson ran the fastest 110-metre hurdles of the season, while Powell won the long jump by soaring 8.2 metres to claim the richest prize in track and field.

Jackson, the world champion and the world record holder from Britain, was

clocked in 13.02 seconds, the fastest in the world this year after the 13.04 that he ran at the European championships in Helsinki earlier this month.

He was challenged all the way by Mark Crear, but had enough power to finish half a step ahead of the American, who clocked 13.07.

"I didn't see him the whole race. I never look behind," Jackson said. "The gold was not that important. I wanted to have a good race."

Mark McCoy, the Olympic champion formerly of Canada who now competed for Austria, finished third in 13.29.

Americans Dennis Mitchell and Jon Drummond finished 1-2 in the 100-metre, edging Olympic and world champion Linford Christie of Britain.

The three sprinters were running side by side halfway into the race, but the Americans pulled away in the final metres.

Mitchell, who has beaten Christie before, clocked 10 seconds flat, while Drummond, twice winner over Christie this season, finished

in 10.01. Christie had to settle for third in 10.02.

"You win some, you lose some," Christie said. "If I won everything this year it would be boring."

"I don't like to say things like that, but yes, it's been a long season," Christie said when asked if he was tired.

He and Jackson arrived here after wins at the Commonwealth Games in Canada.

"In the middle where I surge and pull away from those guys, it didn't happen. I was tight and my string was off," Christie said.

Mitchell said he experienced some problems in his knee and could not post a faster time despite what he called "one of my best starts."

"I'm not where I want to be. I want to be running 9.9s, not just a 10.0," Mitchell said.

Crear ran his third personal best in a row. "I wanted to win. Colin has been undefeated all year and I wanted him to taste second place."

"I have respect for him," said Crear, whose personal best coming into the season was 13.26.

The ISTAF was the last leg of the Golden Four, the track meets in Oslo, Zurich, Brussels and Berlin, which combine to offer the highest prize in track and field, worth about \$285,000.

Graf wins, McNeil loses at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — What a difference a Grand Slam makes.

At Wimbledon in June, veteran Lori McNeil pulled off the biggest upset of the year when she ousted defending champion Steffi Graf in a first-round match.

At the U.S. Open Tuesday, Graf, the defending champion, sped past her opening-round foe, while McNeil, a Wimbledon semi-finalist, fell to Anna Smashnova, playing in only her fourth Grand Slam tournament — all this year.

Graf, top-seeded in the 128-player women's field, was troubled by an aching back, needed only 45 minutes to oust 19-year-old Californian Anna Smashnova, making her debut at the National Tennis Centre, 6-2, 6-1.

Smashnova, who had to go through qualifying to gain the main draw at the Australian Open in January, shocked McNeil, who is 13th-seeded, 6-2, 6-4.

Fifth-seeded Kimiko Date easily won her first-round match, heating fellow Japanese Rika Hiraki 6-0, 6-2; No. 8 Gabriela Sabatini, the 1990 U.S. Open winner, defeated Larisa Neiland 6-0, 6-1 and No. 14 Anke Huber stopped Irina Spirlea of Romania 6-4, 6-2.

Stefan Edberg, twice the men's champion and seeded fifth, brushed past his first-round opponent, defeating fellow Swede Lars Jonsson 7-5, 6-1, 6-1. Another former champion from Sweden, Mats Wilander, fell to Frenchman Guy Forget 7-5, 6-1, 6-4.

Graf said her back began hurting her during a tournament in San Diego, "and it got real bad during Montreal. The pain was very strong there."

She said only rest will cure her problem, but refused to say when she would be able to do that with her busy schedule.

"I've got to try to play this tournament now and play the best I can," and I'll have to see if I take some time off afterwards," Graf said.

Sabatini said her game is better now than when she won this tournament, but notes she must be "aggressive, attacking all the time, especially today with the way that the players are playing. They're hitting the ball so hard, and if I don't hit the ball hard, I'm not going to win."

It wasn't that long ago, 1989 to be exact, when Graf and fellow German Boris Becker sat atop the world of tennis, having won both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. Only Graf has a chance to win here this year.

Becker could only come up with a long list of excuses after losing to Richey Reneberg, a player more accustomed to success in doubles than singles.

On opening day, which didn't end until shortly after 12:30 a.m. Tuesday, Becker and several other seeded players were knocked out of the year's final Grand Slam tournament.

"They made the court extremely slow this year, especially centre court and the grandstand, and they changed the balls," Becker moaned. "They made them very heavy and very soft, and that is very bad for my game."

What was worst for his game was the play of Reneberg.

"Basically the fifth set was the best set I've ever played in my life," Reneberg said after upsetting the seventh-seeded Becker 6-1, 6-4, 4-6, 1-6, 7-6 (7-5). "I had nothing to lose. I could go for my shots."

"There was no way I could play any better. I was making just about everything," he said. "It took six match points, but Reneberg finally prevailed. The winning point coming on a smash that sent the winner's arms skyward and Becker packing."

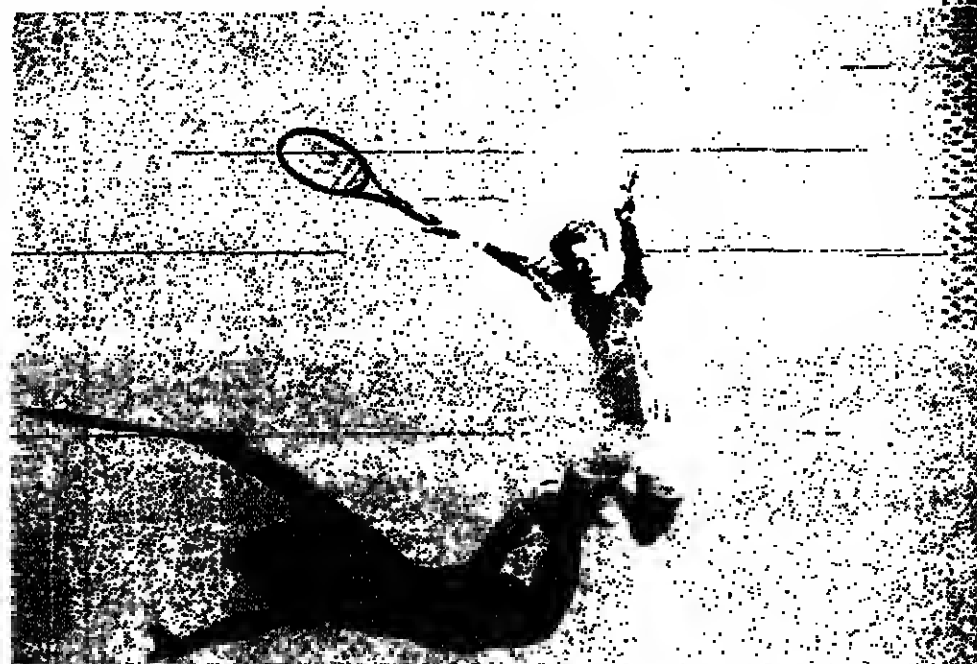
But he wasn't the only one ousted.

Markus Zieck of Germany ousted No. 2 Goran Ivanisevic 6-2, 7-5, 3-6, 7-5 in the men's singles, while Gigi Fernandez, a Wimbledon semifinalist in July, humped

no. 12 Sabine Hack of Germany from the 128-player women's field. And 16th-seeded Petr Korda of the Czech Republic withdrew from the tournament with a pulled groin muscle.

Not every seeded player had problems Monday, however.

Among the men, no. 3 Sergi Bruguera stopped Bryan Shelton 6-0, 6-2, 7-5; no. 6 Michael Chang defeated Andrei Cherkasov 6-4, 6-2, 6-2; no. 12 Wayne Ferreira ousted Wade McGuire 7-5, 6-2, 6-2, and no. 13 Thomas Muster beat Daniele Musa 6-3, 6-2, 6-0.



Sweden's Stefan Edberg serves against fellow countryman John McEnroe Tuesday during their first-round match at the U.S. Open (AFP photo)

McEnroe puts his head on the line at U.S. Open

NEW YORK (AP) — When Richard Krajicek was up 6-0 in the fourth-set tiebreak — meaning six match points for Krajicek over fellow Dutchman John McEnroe put his head on the line.

"If he comes back from here I'll stand on my head during the Courier-Krickstein match. I'll call it upside down," McEnroe said.

McEnroe's tennis talents are well documented. Now he was about to test his gymnastic abilities.

Krajicek, who eventually won the first-round match 7-6 (7-2), 6-4, 6-7 (2-7), 6-7 (8-10), 6-4 in 3 hours, 41 minutes, squandered seven match points in the fourth-set tiebreak.

When Krajicek had his seventh match point in the fourth set, McEnroe put aside his supposedly impartial journalistic ethics, stating, "I don't know who wants this more, Richard or me."

After Krajicek lost the fourth set, McEnroe's sidekick, British announcer David Mercer, started to needle McEnroe about his upcoming headstand stunt.

McEnroe tried to hedge his bet, insisting that when he said "this" he meant Krajicek winning the match, but not necessarily in that exciting fourth-set tiebreak.

Sad seed story: Being top seed at the U.S. Open doesn't mean Pete Sampras can expect to have his name engraved on the winner's trophy.

The defending champion has been nursing an ankle injury since competing in the Davis Cup against the Netherlands in early July. Sampras is making his first appearance as the No. 1 seed at the open, and in the last 26 years, the top seed has won the title only seven times.

Ivan Lendl was the last No. 1 seed in the men's draw to win the title and that was back in 1987 when he did it for the second straight year.

The other top seeds who fulfilled their seeding expectations since 1968 are: Rod Laver (1969), Jimmy Connors (1974, 1976), and John McEnroe (1981, 1984).

If Sampras fails to win his first-round match against South Africa's Kevin Ullyett, he would be the third top seed since the open era began in 1968 to be upset in an opening match.

In 1971, top seed John Newcombe lost in four sets to Jan Kodes in the first round. In 1990, top seed Stefan Edberg lost to Alexander Volkov in three sets.

Playing for pleasure: Losing in the first round of the U.S. Open hasn't discouraged Mats Wilander from wanting to play tennis.

"I wanted to play this whole year and I want to play all next year," Wilander said after his loss to Guy Forget on Tuesday. "That's a long time for me right now to decide that I really want to play another year."

Wilander, the U.S. Open champion in 1988, a year when he attained the No. 1 ranking, is currently enthused about tennis. But after reaching the apex, Wilander found himself at crossroads — the top player in the world without a strong desire to play.

But in April 1993, after a 2½-year sabbatical, Wilander had a resurgence of interest. The 30-year-old Swede, who lives in Greenwich, Conn., with his wife Sonya, daughter Emma and a new baby due any day, has had some encouraging results this year, reaching the round of 16 at the Australian Open.

Wilander says he's making a comeback because of "psychological reasons" and is just trying to enjoy himself.

VS IN BRIEF

sample positive

English athlete Diane Modahl is tested positive, the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) announced here. A sample taken after an athletics brief announcement by the IAAF analysis had "confirmed the data." A analysis. The use of testosterone four-year ban. Modahl was sent to the Commonwealth Games in Canada last week. First test was announced.

n Macau for award

World boxing legend Muhammad Ali is to receive a "fighter of the century" award. The three-time champion is scheduled to visit Hong Kong Thursday, before he receives the award from the Concorde Entertainment work in conjunction with the U.S. Agency for International Trade. He will leave in connection with an NBA boxing event. Originally the seven-bout event was scheduled for Saturday. The championship heavyweight champion Mike Weaver, fight champion Bill Corrigan, featherweight and Jeroma Coffee, as well as boxer Li Houqiang, Lusa said.

EN BRIDGE

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Amman, Jordan. A sample taken after an athletics brief announcement by the IAAF analysis had "confirmed the data." A analysis. The use of testosterone four-year ban. Modahl was sent to the Commonwealth Games in Canada last week. First test was announced.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwaiti official dismisses Iraqi overtures

KUWAIT (AP) — Parliament Speaker Ahmed Al Saddoun has dismissed recent Iraqi overtures for reconciliation with the emirate as desperate attempt to end an embargo slapped on Iraq four years ago after it invaded Kuwait. Mr. Saddoun was quoted Wednesday in the daily Al Watan as saying the Saddam Hussein's regime was "trying to misguide the international community and get around international resolutions" by suggesting it was ready to recognise Kuwait's sovereignty. Kuwait has said it would press to keep international sanctions in place until Baghdad complied with U.N. Security Council resolutions, especially those calling on Iraq to recognise Kuwait's sovereignty, endorse a new border drawn after the 1991 Gulf war and release some 620 war prisoners. Kuwaiti newspapers splashed on their front pages news from Cairo that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has received an Iraqi envoy with a message from Saddam that he was willing to comply with these resolutions and hold "reconciliation meetings" in the Egyptian capital. Al Watan echoed Egyptian press reports that Mr. Mubarak and United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan were trying to restore relations between Iraq and Gulf Arab states. The Kuwaiti foreign ministry declined comment on the report, but the parliament speaker said that while Kuwait "appreciated and welcomed" such efforts, it was not willing to accept anything less than full compliance with all U.N. resolutions. The United Nations will decide next month whether to extend or lift the curbs that ban most dealings with Iraq.

Britain to bar Algerian Islamic leader

LONDON (AFP) — Britain will bar a leader of Algeria's outlawed Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) from giving a lecture here in order not to upset France, which backs the Algerian government, the Guardian reported Wednesday. Quoting British government sources, the daily said that "to avoid an Anglo-French row the authorities intend to refuse a visa to Anwar Haddam on grounds of his alleged support for terrorism." Mr. Haddam, a FIS representative for Europe and the United States, has been invited to lecture on his movement's view of the Algerian crisis to the Royal Institute of International Affairs on Sept. 21. Interviewed by the Guardian from Washington, Mr. Haddam repeated denials that he had joined the Armed Islamic Group (GIA), the most hardline of the Islamic militants battling the military-backed government in Algeria.

Missing Finns reported freed by Kurdish rebels

ANKARA (R) — Two Finnish tourists, abducted on Aug. 6 by Kurdish guerrillas, have been released, a newspaper close to the separatist Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) said on Wednesday. The daily Ozgur Ulke said in its late edition that the pair, the first foreigners seized this year, had been freed in Pulmur, in Tunceli province, the same region where they were seized at a roadblock in broad daylight.

Five Somalians found frozen to death in Arctic

OSLO (R) — Five Somalians have been found frozen to death in Arctic Russia, the Norwegian border commissioner said on Wednesday. "The Russians have informed us that five Somalians froze to death in December 1992," Lars Finstad told Reuters. He did not know when the bodies were found. The five were discovered some 100 kilometres east of the Norwegian border, well into Russian territory near Titovka. Asylum-seekers and would-be immigrants have several times tried to cross the desolate Norwegian-Russian border. Norway is the only NATO-member which shared a border with Russia.

Israel wants halt to N. Korean missile sales to Syria, Iran

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israel will ask the United States to step up efforts to stop North Korean long-range missiles exports to Iran and Syria, officials told AFP on Wednesday. The foreign ministry deputy director, Eytan Ben Tzur, was scheduled to press the issue with senior U.S. official Robert Gallucci when the two met on Thursday in Washington, the officials said. Mr. Gallucci resumes negotiations with North Korea next month in Geneva following agreement to normalise relations. Israel cut secret links with Pyongyang last August under pressure from Washington which was trying to force the hardline communists to allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities. In return the American administration pledged to work to put an end to missile sales. "The United States raised the (missile) issue informally during their last meeting with the North Koreans, who totally rejected it," Mr. Ben Tzur told Wednesday's Haaretz newspaper. A foreign ministry official indicated to the daily that Israel could resume contacts with Pyongyang to try to halt the missile sales. "If the United States does not honour its word, Israel will feel free to act as it seems fit," he said. Israel has no diplomatic relations with North Korea.

Israel gets 10 U.S. helicopters

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The Israeli air force received a shipment of 10 U.S. Black Hawk helicopters Tuesday, military officials said. The latest model manufactured by the firm Sikorsky, the Black Hawks are used for troop transport and are also equipped for ground attack. Their avionics will be upgraded in Israel. The helicopters were provided through a liquidation of U.S. military stocks. The Black Hawk is capable of transporting 12 fully equipped soldiers or 21 with light equipment. It is armed with two 7.62 millimeter guns and can carry 16 Hell Fire missiles.

Arafat orders 22 bodyguards jailed

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat ordered 22 of his bodyguards jailed Wednesday after they opened fire into the air to celebrate a wedding at a beachfront hotel. The guards were attending the wedding of a captain in the special force at the Palestine Hotel, with the guests including Mr. Arafat's sister-in-law and other relatives of senior officials, sources in Gaza said. Around 10 p.m. Tuesday they opened the windows looking out over the beach and let rip with an extended barrage of gunfire, said guests who attended the wedding. An angry Arafat issued the arrest order first thing Wednesday morning and the officers in charge of the corps began rounding up the men and taking them to the central jail. The length of the sentences was not immediately available.

Lebanon remembers Shi'ite imam

BEIRUT (R) — Shops, banks and businesses closed in most of Lebanon on Wednesday in memory of a revered Lebanese Shi'ite cleric who vanished in 1978 on an official visit to Libya. The shutdown was called by Nabih Berri, head of the mainstream Shi'ite Amal Movement and speaker of parliament. Amal is an offshoot of the Movement of the Deprived, the first Lebanese Shi'ite political movement which was founded by Imam Moussa Sadr, the vanished cleric, in the early 1970s. Amal and the Beirut government have accused Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi of responsibility for Moussa Sadr's disappearance. Libya says he vanished after leaving the country.

Convicted murderer hanged in Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — A 26-year-old Syrian convicted of murder and armed robbery was hanged in Homs, some 200 kilometres north of Damascus, on Wednesday, security sources said. They said Tareq Bin Mohammad Al Refai was convicted of killing Faisal Al Zaim, a jeweller, in an armed robbery against Zaim's jewellery shop in the city on Feb. 4.

Israel bars Shaath from Ibrahimi mosque

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (AFP) — Israeli troops prevented PLO Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath from entering Hebron's massacre mosque on Wednesday amid a dispute over plans to separate Jews and Muslims at the shrine, correspondents said. He failed to get past a military roadblock a day after Israeli MPs toured the Tomb of the Patriarchs which is undergoing alterations to try to prevent a repetition of the Feb. 25 slaughter of more than 29 Muslims by a Jewish settler.

Mr. Shaath told reporters that Palestinians would not accept Israeli plans to allot one area for Jews and another for Muslims.

"It's a purely Muslim mosque. There is nothing inside for the Jews," he said. "But anyone can visit outside Muslim prayer times."

Visiting Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa also criticised the Israeli plans.

"I support the Palestinian proposal. It's a wrong step that the Israelis have taken and we are going to discuss that," he said after praying at Al Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem.

Dr. Shaath toured Hebron hotspots, including Jewish strongholds, with Mayor Mustafa Natche after arriving on Wednesday from Gaza City.

His visit came a day after the Palestinian Authority announced it would protest to the U.N. Security Council over Israel's "carve-up" in

the mosque.

"Israel has turned the mosque into a ghetto," Dr. Shaath charged.

The Arab press has reported that the mosque would be reopened next week, which officials have denied, with most of the space given over to the Jews.

The complex has been closed since the massacre and the Israeli MPs said the building work had not been finished.

Israel has ordered alterations in line with inquiry recommendations to put in closed circuit cameras, separate entrances and prayer halls for Jews and Muslims.

Mayor Natche called Tuesday for Jews to be prevented from praying in the tomb which Jews were allowed to enter for the first time after Israel captured the West Bank in 1967.

According to the Bible God made a covenant in Hebron with Abraham as father of the chosen people. When he died he was buried alongside his wife in a cave there and later joined by their son Isaac and his son Jacob.

Jews and Muslims believe the fortress-like tomb, first constructed by Herod the Great around 20 BC, is built over the cave.

The complex had been a mosque since the Arab conquest of the Holy Land in 638, apart from the Crusader period between 1100 and 1260.

Pakistan snubs Israel over Bhutto visit

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has decided not to reschedule an aborted visit to the Gaza Strip, despite Israel's decision to authorise the trip after three days of wrangling, officials said Wednesday.

"We do not recognise Israeli authority in the occupied territories. So we do not need their permission," a foreign office spokesman said. "Bhutto has called off the visit and, therefore, she is not going," he said.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) head Yasser Arafat issued an invitation to Ms. Bhutto to visit Gaza after Israel granted the Palestinians autonomy in the region.

In Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, trying to defuse the diplomatic flap with Pakistan, gave his permission on Wednesday for Ms. Bhutto to visit Gaza.

Mr. Rabin had previously said the "lady from Pakistan" had to be taught some manners after she announced she would go to Gaza on September 4 without approval by Israel, which still controls access to the strip.

But in a compromise reached with Egypt's help, the Pakistani prime minister will be able to enter Gaza by air from Egypt without having to deal personally with Israel," Mr. Rabin said after talks with visiting Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa.

"She declares, 'I don't want to see any Israeli. I don't want to recognise Israel'," Mr. Rabin told a meeting of legislators from his Labour Party.

"She could have done what

was proposed yesterday — and I allowed it — that Egypt give us her passport and those of her entourage."

"We will sign an entry permit for her. She will fly in Egypt in a plane and will land in Gaza, and I hope she will speak with the Palestinians about the problems of the Palestinians and not deal with Israel," he said.

An Israeli official said Rabin thanked Musa for helping to reach the compromise.

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres subsequently said he told Mr. Arafat that Israel had changed its position, and agreed to Ms. Bhutto's visit.

Mr. Arafat said "we had no wish to damage the peace process or the Palestinian Authority. The problem was not Madame Bhutto but the procedure."

Ms. Bhutto had planned to visit Gaza during her Sept. 4-6 trip to Egypt to attend the U.N. World Population conference.

Israel authorities on Sunday stopped Pakistan's ambassador to Tunis, T.K. Khan, from crossing into Gaza to prepare for Ms. Bhutto's visit.

A foreign office spokesman here said in reference to Israel that "it does not help anyone who is to illegals occupation of another people's land to display such arrogance."

"Pakistan does not recognise that Israel has any authority in the occupied territories. Therefore, we do not need any permission from Israel to go to Gaza," he said.

Rabin threatens halt to authority transfer

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians have killed 11 Israelis since the autonomy went into effect in the Gaza Strip and Jericho on May 18.

Many of the suspected assailants have escaped into the autonomous zones, but no charges have been filed.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, or Hamas, claimed responsibility for most of the attacks.

Israelis were especially angered by the death of two construction workers last Friday which took place inside the country's borders.

That put even the staunchest peace advocates in the government like Mr. Sarid on the defensive.

"If terrorism continues without a feeling that something is being done to control it, it could also make matters explode," said Mr. Sarid, referring to the peace talks.

The violence added to a popularity squeeze already felt by Mr. Rabin's two-year-old cabinet. Last week a poll in the Yedioth Ahronoth daily showed Mr. Rabin's approval rating had dropped to 45 per cent, only one point ahead of his main right-wing rival, Benjamin Netanyahu.

In a special parliament debate Wednesday on the violence,

opposition Likud member Moshe Katsav charged that the continued moves to widen autonomy were "incomprehensible" given the PLO's failure to crack down on Hamas.

"Instead of arresting and bringing them to justice, they find shelter in the autonomy that the government of Israel gave the PLO," Mr. Katsav said.

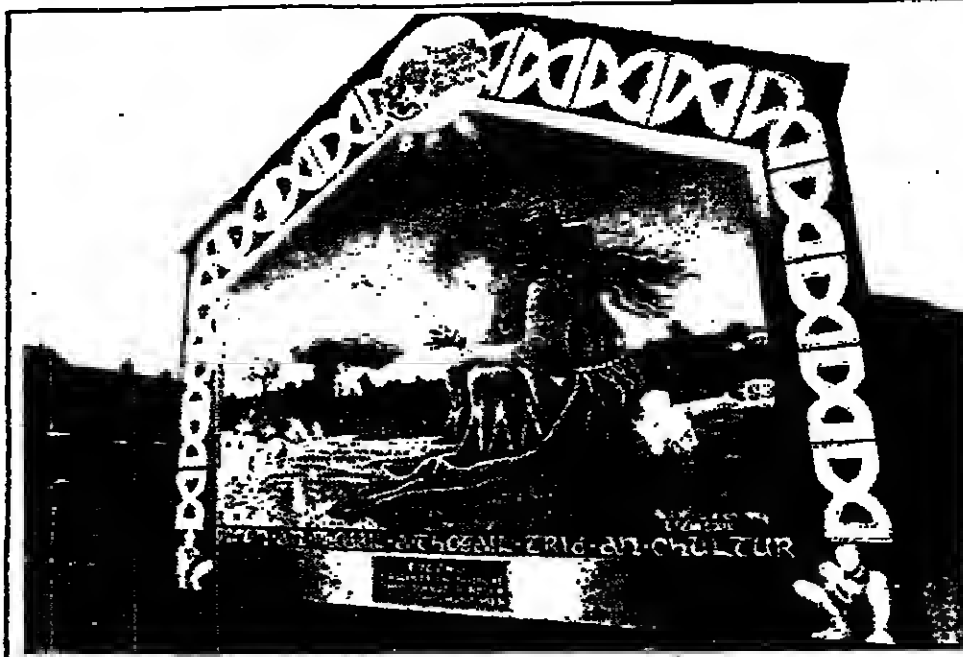
Mr. Rabin, addressing Labour Party legislators, demanded a Palestinian crack down on Hamas.

"We demand that (the Palestinians) assume their responsibilities," Mr. Rabin said.

"We supply information, and they know they are not doing as much as they can," he added. "If they don't take steps and terror continues and they don't make a special effort, it will weigh heavily on the process."

Israel this week transferred education authorities in the West Bank to the Palestinians, the first extension of Palestinian authority outside Gaza and Jericho.

The next round of talks in mid-September is supposed to focus on the timing for the other authorities to be transferred.



Picture taken on Tuesday of a mural located in the Catholic area of Ardoyne, Belfast depicts a woman (Ireland) and the dove of peace. The IRA announced a total ceasefire beginning Wednesday at midnight. See page 1 story (AFP photo)

Egypt, Israel remain divided over nuclear weapons, peace with Syria

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Egyptian foreign Minister Amr Musa ended Wednesday a two-day visit here openly differing with Israel over nuclear arms control in the region and peace with Syria.

Mr. Musa opposed statements by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres on both issues, but he kept the door open and pledged further talks.

"I would say the opposite," Mr. Musa told reporters, after Mr. Peres said peace must first be established in the Middle East before Israel could contemplate signing the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

"We cannot achieve peace without arms control, which would contribute to the region with better security," answered Mr. Musa, the first Egyptian foreign minister to pay an official visit to Israel since a peace treaty was signed in 1979.

He tore down Mr. Peres's example of being unable to build the second floor of a house without a ground floor built on peace.

"The logic of Mr. Peres of how to build a house... we can build the whole house and then fill it in," he said. However, Mr. Musa went

on, "we shall eventually achieve a kind of agreement to start launching a regional process."

Experts from Egypt, which has signed the treaty, will meet in a month with Israelis to continue talks on weapons of mass destruction.

In multilateral arms control talks, Egypt has pressed Israel to join the treaty in the 1995 renewal session and open its nuclear facilities to international inspection.

Foreign reports say Israel has developed nuclear arms, but the government's official position is that "Israel will not be the first to introduce nuclear arms to the Middle East."

On conditions for peace with Syria, Mr. Peres reiterated Israel's stand that Damascus must commit itself to total peace with open borders before expecting Israel to negotiate a withdrawal from the Golan Heights.

Mr. Peres said he favoured both open and secret talks with Syria.

"The Syrians did not agree, neither to the first nor to the second (talks)," he said.

Mr. Musa has called for "all for all," and urged Israel to withdraw fully from the Golan Heights in return for

full peace with Syria.

The Egyptian minister had talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and also met with Palestinian officials in East Jerusalem on Wednesday.

He said the future of the Holy City, which both Israel and the Palestinians claim as their capitals, remained open to negotiation.

But Mr. Peres took up the question at the news conference, and said "for us Jerusalem is not a question now, it is part of Israel and is closed politically but open religiously."

Mr. Musa visited the Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem.

He went with Mr. Peres into the children's section dedicated to the hundreds of thousands of youngsters among the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis.

His original programme had not included the haunting hill-top tribute on the edge of Jerusalem, threatening to sour the first official visit to Israel by Cairo's top diplomat since the peace treaty.

But after talks with Peres on Tuesday, Mr. Musa changed his mind and announced he would be pleased to go.

France deports 20 Algerian Islamists to Burkina Faso

PARIS (R) — France on Wednesday deported 20 Algerian Islamists to Burkina Faso in a crackdown on Islamists after the killing of five French nationals in Algeria nearly a month ago, officials said.

The interior ministry, announcing the expulsion, would not disclose the destination. But a government official who asked not to be named said they were on their way to the impoverished West African country.

The Algerians had been held for up to nearly a month at a disused army camp in the village of Folembrey north-east of Paris pending their expulsion to a third country.

"The country of destination having been decided, the expulsions were carried out today for 20 of the 26 people under forced residence at Folembrey," the interior ministry said.

It said the six others would remain under surveillance "according to the needs of public order."

The ministry did not say who stayed and who went, leaving even the detainees' lawyers guessing where their clients were.

Officials said moderate Paris imam (preacher) Larbi Kechar was among those who stayed in France. Lawyers said shopkeeper Said Magri, who was on a hunger strike to

protest his innocence, was being returned to his home in the northern town of Lille.

Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said the expulsions were intended as a message to Muslim militants in France to refrain from political activity.

"I hope this will serve as a lesson for those who do not want to respect the laws of the republic and hospitality."

The Algerians were taken under heavy guard to the bleak Folembrey army camp in successive police swoops after Muslim guerrillas killed three French gendarmes and two embassy staff in a French housing compound in Algiers on Aug. 3.

Peace treaty follows resolution of issues

(Continued from page 1)

Jordan, the King said he discussed with the French leader issues of common concern and difficulties facing the Kingdom noting that Jordan had shouldered heavy burdens throughout the past years in view of its closeness to the Palestine question and the Palestinian people.

"In view of the changes in the region I hope to see people feel that we are at the threshold of a new era, entirely different from that of the past," he added.

Asked about the negotiations on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks the King said that these and other issues were discussed and "we presented our views" hoping that there will be progress on the other tracks.

"We are dealing with Jordanian issues as did the Egyptians and the Palestinians before, and we hope that all other parties would follow suit so that there will be a comprehensive peace," he said.

Asked whether he expected a meeting soon with President Hafez Assad of Syria, the King said "We always meet and we have been all the time in constant contact over matters regard-

ing the future. I believe that President Assad is informed of our intentions and our moves, and I said at our last meeting that he might have a longer time frame in mind than others, but we have to move and he is moving too."

He added: "Hopefully we will meet strongly because we cherish strong brotherly relations that would enable us to offer a better service in the coming stages."

Jordan Television reported last night that King Hussein discussed with the French president Franco-Jordanian relations and progress on the Jordanian-Israeli peace track as well as the end of the state of war with Israel.

JTV said that the King explained that Jordan was seeking the full implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and the restoration of the Kingdom's legitimate rights.

It said that the King underlined the important role of France with regard to the Middle East region at this crucial stage.

The French President expressed full understanding of the Jordanian position and appreciation, for the King's efforts, JTV reported.

Before meeting with the president, the King met French Prime Minister

Edoardo Balladur. The French premier hosted a lunch in the King's honour attended by the official Jordanian delegation.

King Hussein also met with the French defence minister who voiced France's backing for Jordan. The minister said he instructed Defence Ministry officials to promote bilateral cooperation in military matters and increase the exchange of visits by military personnel and military missions.

The defence minister expressed hope that Jordan and France will sign a cooperation treaty before the end of 1994, noting that France will continue to provide all forms of aid to the Kingdom.

Later Wednesday, Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor left for London on a private visit accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses Prince Hamzeh and Prince Hashem, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid and Senator Jamal Nasser.

Other members of the delegation included Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's political advisor Marwan Al Qassem, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan and Minister of Industry and Trade Rima Khalaf.

COLUMN

Man charged with threatening to kill Clinton

FALMOUTH, Massachusetts (AFP) — A construction worker was charged with threatening to kill President Bill Clinton after he told a ticket agent he was travelling to Martha's Vineyard to carry out the assassination, police said. Glenn Armstrong, 26, of Uxbridge, Massachusetts, was taken into custody Monday at a ferry terminal that offers passenger service to the island where Mr. Clinton and family are vacationing. Police said he told a ticket agent he needed to kill the president. The self-employed worker was charged with threatening to commit murder, said Secret Service agent Mike Johnston who refused to say whether Mr. Armstrong was armed. White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers confirmed the arrest of an unnamed man at a briefing Tuesday but would not comment further. Mr. Clinton spent most of Monday indoors due to bad weather apart from going out for dinner at the home of author William Styron.

Civil rights heroine Parks assaulted

DETROIT, Michigan (AFP) — Rosa Parks, whose act of defiance on a bus earned her the title of "mother of the civil rights movement" was assaulted in her home Tuesday by a man who broke into her home, police said. Ms. Parks, 81, was treated for facial injuries sustained in the attack and was later released from hospital. She was upstairs in her home during the evening when she heard a noise downstairs and went to investigate, police said. Ms. Parks found a man reeking of alcohol on the premises. He told her someone else had knocked down the door and that he was there to protect her. But he then hit her in the face and fled with about \$50. No arrest had been made by late Tuesday. Ms. Parks was 42 when she challenged the repressive U.S. racial segregation laws of the 1950s by refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama, bus when a white man asked her to. An active member of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, Ms. Parks was jailed, a measure which triggered a year-long boycott of the bus line and the eventual desegregation of the buses. Her act was an inspiration to many others in the civil rights movement over the next two decades.

Solzhenitsyn rejects prize

MOSCOW (AP) — Alexander Solzhenitsyn has refused a literature prize from a Russian nationalist organisation, saying other candidates need the award more, the Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper reported. The Tolstoy Prize was created in 1992 by members of the nationalist Writers' Union of Russia and the Golos Publishing House. Mr. Solzhenitsyn, who returned to his native Russia in May after 20 years of exile abroad, has tried to step clear of political groups since his return. Previous Tolstoy Prize winners include such nationalist authors as Vasily Belov and Yuri Bondarev, but Pyotr Alekhin, chairman of the jury, said contenders were not judged on their political views. "Solzhenitsyn is convinced that the other candidates need the prize more than he does," said Alekhin. Winners of the Tolstoy Prize get 10 million rubles (\$5,000).

California State Senate allows knives in schools

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — A bill to allow children of the Sikh religion to wear ceremonial daggers to school won unanimous passage this week in the California State Senate. The bill, passed on a 30-0 vote Monday, must be signed by the California governor before becoming law. The daggers, known as Kirpans, are prohibited under state law forbidding knives with blades longer than 2 1/2 inches (6.3 centimetres) on school grounds. The bill would allow students to carry knives that are part of a recognised religious practice.